MARVEL MASTERWORKS®
THE INCREDIBLE HULK®
VOLUME 4

THE INCREDIBLE HULK® Nos. 103-110
& ANNUAL No. 1
STAN LEE, GARY FRIEDRICH, MARIE SEVERIN & HERB TRIMPE

MARVEL

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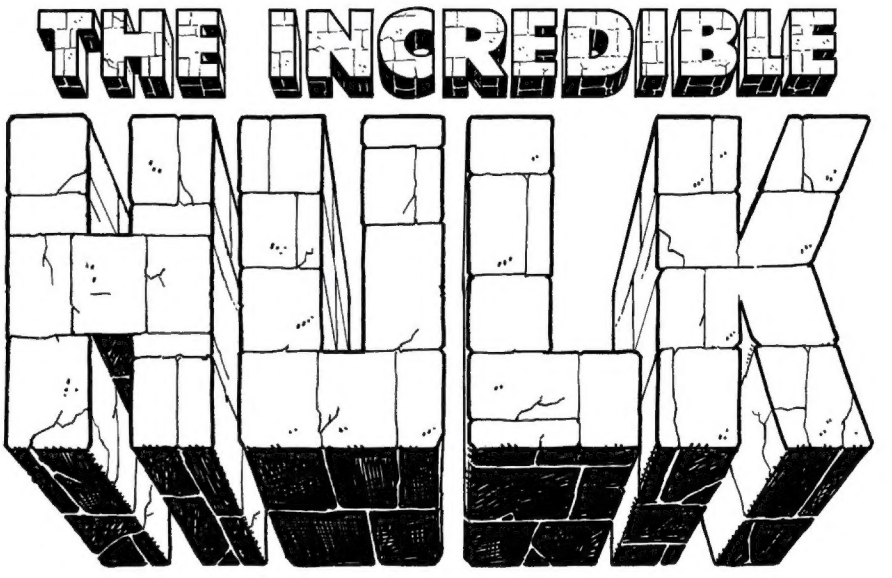
PRESENTS



VOLUME 4

COLLECTING

THE INCREDIBLE HULK Nos. 103-110

& ANNUAL No. 1

STAN LEE • GARY FRIEDRICH

MARIE SEVERIN • HERB TRIMPE

Collection Editor
Cory Sedlmeier
Book Design
Nickel DesignWorks
Senior Editor, Special Projects
Jeff Youngquist
Digital Manager/Production
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Digital Production
Kou Chen
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CREDITS

THE
INCREDIBLE HULK
NOS. 103-110 & ANNUAL NO. 1

Writers: Stan Lee (Nos. 108-110)
Gary Friedrich (Nos. 103, 104, 107, Annual No. 1)
Roy Thomas (Nos. 105, 106)
Bill Everett (No. 105)
Archie Goodwin (No. 106)

Pencilers: Marie Severin (Nos. 103-106, Annual No. 1)
Herb Trimpe (Nos. 106-110)
Frank Giacoia (No. 109)

Inkers: Frank Giacoia (Nos. 103, 104)
George Tuska (Nos. 105, 106)
Syd Shores (No. 107, Annual No. 1)
John Severin (Nos. 108-110)

Letterers: Art Simek (Nos. 103, 106, 107, 109)
Sam Rosen (Nos. 104, 105, 110)
Irving Watanabe (No. 108, Annual No. 1)

Editor: Stan Lee

Color Reconstruction: Michael Kelleher

Art Reconstruction: Dale Crain

Special Thanks: Ralph Macchio, Marie Severin & Herb Trimpe

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The Incredible Hulk #107, September 1968
"Ten Rings Hath…the Mandarin!"

The Incredible Hulk #108, October 1968
"Monster Triumphant!"

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"A Refuge Divided!"

The Incredible Hulk #109, November 1968
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The Incredible Hulk #110, December 1968
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INTRODUCTION
BY HERB TRIMPE

I hate columns that begin with, "I have a confession to make." It's a kind of cheesy, touchy-feely way to grab attention, with the hidden promise that the reader is about to be privy to some really juicy inside information that probably isn't true in the first place. That being said—I have a confession to make. In this little collection of Hulk comics, some to which I have contributed and some not, I had previously not read a single one!

Not only that, but in my eight-year run on the Hulk, I don't believe I read a single issue completely through. Of course, I was familiar with the storylines. After all, I worked from plots invented by the likes of Stan Lee, Roy Thomas, and the numerous and talented writers that followed. Witness herein the issues scripted by Gary Friedrich, and you'll see what I mean. The point is, who had time to read the books? There were pressing deadlines and other important things to attend to, like lengthy lunches, softball games in Central Park, and just plain Bullpen hijinks. Nevertheless, I'm embarrassed to say, after being out of the business for more than ten years, I wish I had been paying more attention at the time.

When I was contacted by Cory Sedlmeier at Marvel and sent copies of the stories to be included in this anthology, I felt an obligation to know that of which I spoke. And so, after reading the first two or three issues, I realized what a bunch of middle-aged fans had been telling me for years, that, hey, these stories were pretty damned good!

How did it start? I'll tell you—and I'll lie just enough so it ain't too boring. I came to Marvel Comics, then a division of Magazine Management, straight from Vietnam in 1966. Not a big change, some might think. John Verpoorten, the production chief at Marvel, and my old art school pal, put a bug in Sol Brodsky's ear, and Sol, being the good guy he was (desperate, probably, too), hired me to do some freelance inking, mostly Westerns. That went on for a couple of months and when Marvel bought a giant, and I mean big, Photostat machine in order to save time and money, I was asked if I'd like a staff job operating the thing. "Heck yeah," I said, feeling like I was now a made man. I was trained by a tech rep from the company and turned loose on all the original art that was being handled in the production department. On the side, I continued to do some inking, and, as it turned out, a one-shot *Marvel Super-Heroes* story with Groovy Gary Friedrich called "The Phantom Eagle"—the one book, to this day, I'd actually like to do over. Grooves, as he was called by his friends, and the easiest person in the world to work with, was one fun guy who had a ton of writing under his belt, having done everything from romance to Western to super heroes. We had spent many a wild hour with the "unofficial" Marvel bowling team in alleys over on Manhattan's East Side, so, when he came up with the idea for the PE featuring World War I airplanes, I think that was the day I became Happy Herbie. I was so thrilled and inspired, I actually went out and bought a PT-17 open cockpit biplane, and proceeded to terrorize the local cows in Ulster County, New York.

Then there came a time, about a year or so into the Marvel experience, when Marie Severin, the brilliantly funny and talented lady in the Marvel Bullpen, who had been penciling the Hulk since ol' Greenskin got a book of his own, moved on to bigger and better things. Marie had a wit quicker than the Rawhide Kid's draw, and she frequently expressed this in drawings which appeared in the blink of an eye on the walls of the Marvel Bullpen. Nobody was safe from her wickedly sharp humor, not even Stan. When Jack Kirby left Marvel for DC, she made an outrageously funny plaque using Jack's actual cigar butt, and ceremoniously

placed it on the Bullpen wall in remembrance. I was one of her favorite targets, I'm proud to say, and still have a stack of drawings to prove it.

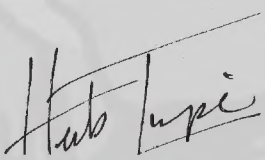
When Marie left the Hulk, it made a huge hole in the Marvel starting lineup. This was a lineup, by the way, in which the Hulk was an extremely popular character, and one of the five top-selling titles—all before the TV show, and Hollywood, and the hype we all know too well today. And there was me, the rookie, sitting in the Bullpen, never expecting to get the call, especially with so many experienced and talented people available. So, the day when Stan stuck his head in the Bullpen, and we were all sitting there waiting for him to chew us out for being too loud (which we frequently were), he looked at me and said, "Trimpe, how would you like to draw the Hulk?" After Marie, Tony Mortellaro and John Romita helped me off the floor, I mumbled, "Sure, Stan, no problem."

Me being a textbook Gemini, the Hulk and I suited each other very well. People have commented on this, and I reluctantly admit that there were times when I related very closely to the Hulk's dual personality. Things were not so compatible with the drawing, however. When I came to Marvel, I was a huge EC fan. Jack Davis was my idol, and I tried my damnedest to emulate his cartoony but hard-hitting style. This was a no-no at Marvel, and Stan cured me very quickly. Looking back on those early Hulk issues, I realize how much my version of the Hulk was influenced by Marie's, and it might be noted that she had a very big hand in guiding me through my early penciling efforts by doing the layouts not only in issue 106, in which she gets credit, but issues 107 and 108 as well. By issue 109, Stan turned me loose on the layouts. I diligently penciled three pages and took them into his office. He took one look—and HATED what he saw. I seem to remember the pages being torn in half, not by him (he was too much of a gentleman for that). Probably by me, in despair. At any rate, the message from Stan was clear, and the pages wound up in the circular file.

Stan quickly went to his Bullpen again, and Frank Giacoia stepped into the batter's box. "Trimpe," said Stan, "Frank will show you how to do this. Pay close attention."

I knew what that meant. Now, Frank was known for his incredible inking, but like many inkers in those days, he could draw rings around just about anyone. He came back to the office a few days later with the entire issue of Hulk 109 beautifully laid out. It was a dream to tighten the pencils, and with John Severin's inks, I still think it is one of the best-looking Hulks produced. Stan looked at each page and smiled.

Then came issue 110. I knew what would happen if I blew it again. At best, the Photstat machine; at worst, the street. But Stan was smart. He kept John Severin on as inker, with Marie and Frank available to give me a hand if I got into trouble. I sweated over those layouts, to be sure, doing them lightly, but completing the entire issue before showing it to Stan. What the hell, I thought. All or nothing. The day came and I walked into Stan's office. Stan went through the pages, examining each one closely, his face expressionless. Then he looked up—and he smiled. "Trimpe," he said, "you can't draw worth a damn, but your storytelling is terrific." To this day, I consider that to be the nicest compliment I've ever had.



2007

THE INCREDIBLE
HULK
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
103 MAY
MCG
AND NOW.. THE SPACE PARASITE!

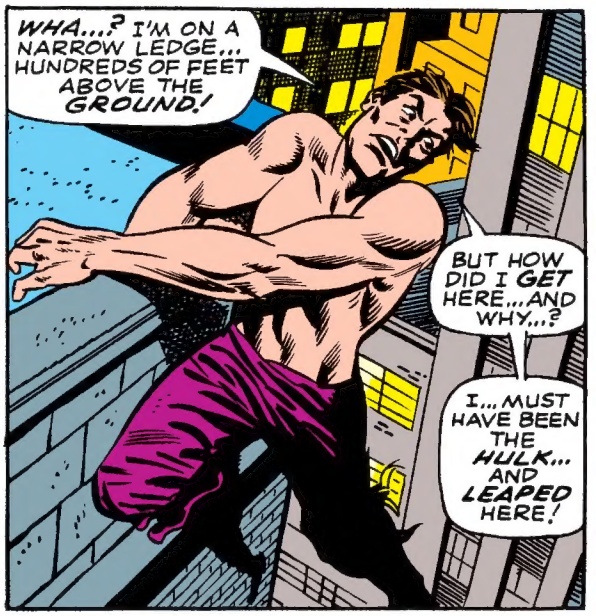
THE INCREDIBLE HULK!™
"AND NOW.... the SPACE PARASITE!"
DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT EVEN STAN LEE, EDITOR... GARY FRIEDRICH, SCRIPTER... MARIE SEVERIN, ARTIST... FRANK GIACOIA, INKER... ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER... REMEMBER THAT, AS WE ENDED OUR LAST EPIC, BIG DADDY ODIN HAD ZAPPED THE HULK BACK TO EARTH! AND, SINCE NORSE GODS AREN'T NOTED FOR DOING THINGS UP SMALL, LOOK WHERE OLD GREEN SKIN LANDED...SMACK DAB IN THE MIDDLE OF TIMES SQUARE! HOOO BOY!
Canadian Club
Coca-Cola
SOMEHOW...I'M BACK ON EARTH...IN NEW YORK! AND...PUNY MEN STILL RUN FROM HULK!
NOTHING'S CHANGED WHILE I WAS IN THAT STRANGE LAND! THE HULK IS STILL FEARED...BECAUSE HE'S THE STRONGEST OF ALL!
NAAH! IT'S PROBABLY JUST PART OF AN AD CAMPAIGN BY THE JOLLY GREEN GIANT COMPANY!
GEORGE...IT...IT'S THE HULK!
YEAH? WELL, MAYBE YOU WANNA STICK AROUND AND WAIT TO GET HIT WITH A CAN OF PEAS...BUT NOT ME, CHARLIE!

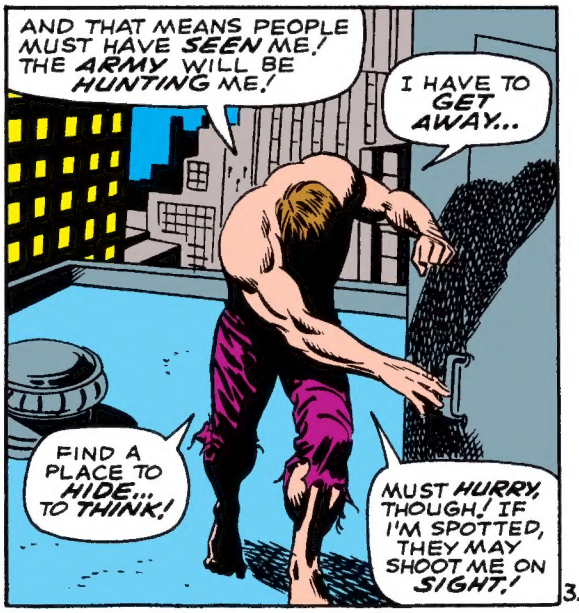
GO AHEAD AND RUN! HULK DOESN'T NEED YOU!
HULK DOESN'T NEED ANYONE! JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!
DR. DOOLITTLE
HALT... IN THE NAME OF THE LAW! I'LL ONLY FIRE ONE WARNING SHOT!
THE NEXT ONE WILL BE TO KILL!
WHAT? YOU DARE TO CHALLENGE HULK?
NO WEAPON CAN STOP ME--
NO STANDING
BUT SEE HOW EASY IT IS FOR HULK TO SMASH YOU!
RRRAAKK!
CALL OUT THE GUARD! HE'S ON A RAMPAGE!
EVERYONE STAND BACK! DON'T TRY TO FOLLOW HULK!
SMMAAASSSHHH!
MUST LEAP NOW...GET TO A HIGH PLACE...WHERE HULK CAN WATCH MEN!
THE ARMY'S BOUND TO COME SOON...TO TRY TO KILL HULK!
HOTEL
STATE
BUT, FROM HIGH ON BUILDING TOP...HULK WILL HAVE THE ADVANTAGE!
2

NOW HULK CAN SEE FOR BLOCKS... I'LL SEE THE ARMY BEFORE IT CAN SEE ME!
PUNY WEAKLINGS! BRING YOUR STRONGEST... YOUR BEST SOLDIERS... AND HULK WILL BEAT THEM ALL!

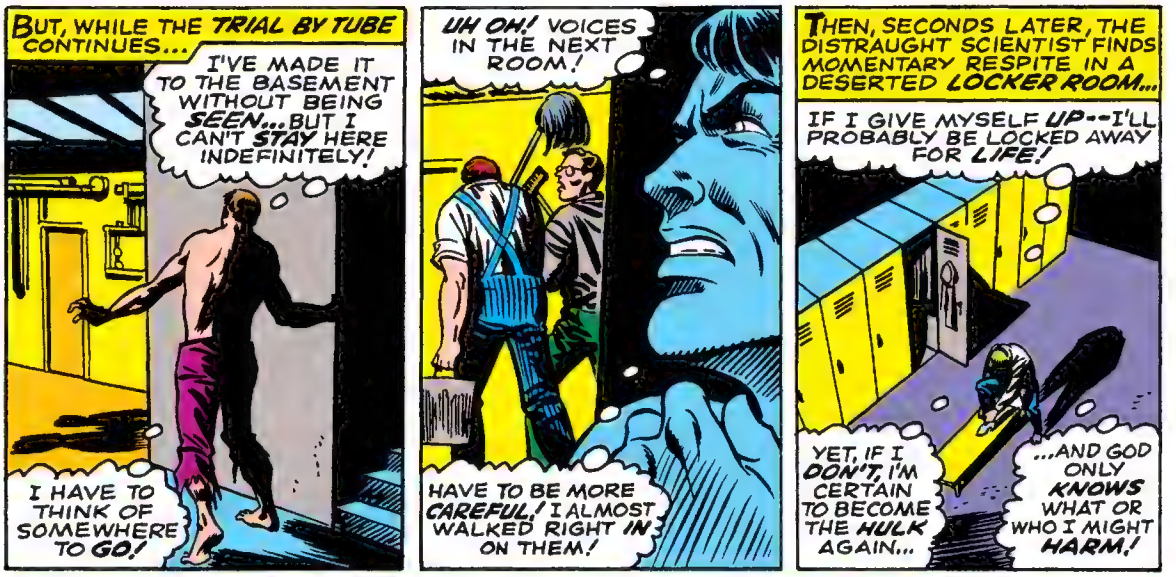
BUT, AT THAT EXACT INSTANT...
NOTHING CAN STOP... AAARRRHHH!
NOT... NOW! MUSTN'T CHANGE ...TOO WEAK... BRUCE BANNER!

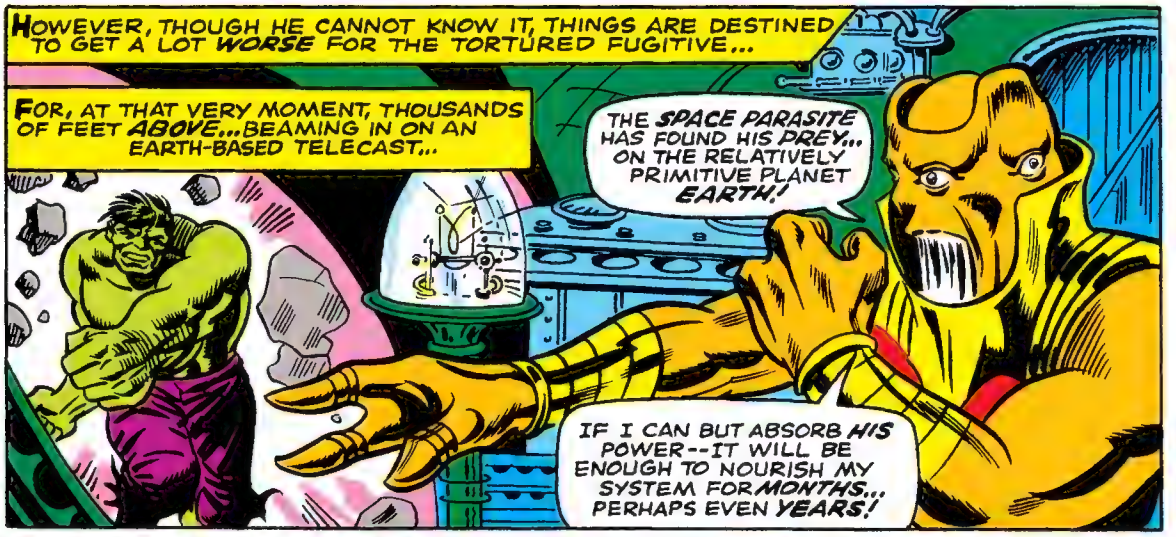
HOWEVER, NOT EVEN THE FIERCE DETERMINATION OF THE HULK CAN PREVENT THE MOST AMAZING TRANSFORMATION SINCE DOC JEKYLL FROM OCCURRING...
NOOOOOOO!
IT'S...TOO LATE! I'M BECOMING...
BRUCE BANNER AGAIN!

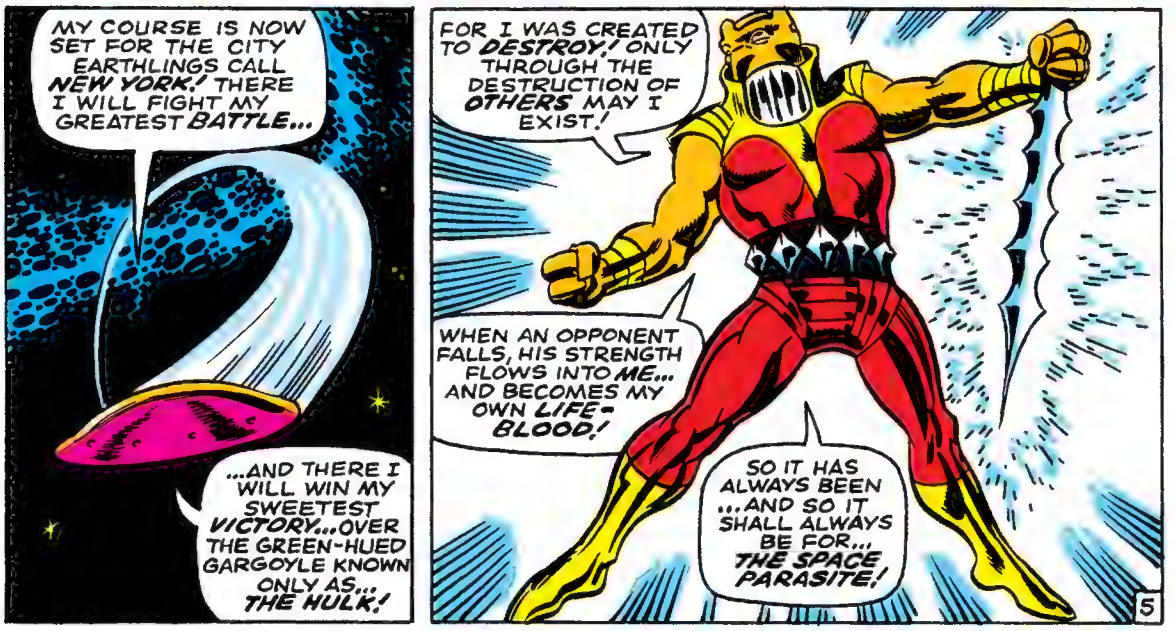

WHA...? I'M ON A NARROW LEDGE... HUNDREDS OF FEET ABOVE THE GROUND!
BUT HOW DID I GET HERE...AND WHY...?
I... MUST HAVE BEEN THE HULK... AND LEAPED HERE!


AND THAT MEANS PEOPLE MUST HAVE SEEN ME! THE ARMY WILL BE HUNTING ME!
I HAVE TO GET AWAY...
FIND A PLACE TO HIDE... TO THINK!
MUST HURRY, THOUGH! IF I'M SPOTTED, THEY MAY SHOOT ME ON SIGHT!

BUT, WHILE THE SEEMINGLY ENDLESS GAME OF HIDE AND SEEK BEGINS ONCE MORE, LET'S TURN OUR ATTENTION TO A MIDTOWN TELEVISION STUDIO--WHERE A POPULAR TALK SHOW IS NOW IN PROGRESS...
AND SO, ON BEHALF OF OUR SPONSOR, I'D NOW LIKE TO INTRODUCE OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS FOR TONIGHT...
GENERAL THUNDERBOLT ROSS, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE AIR FORCE'S CAMPAIGN TO DESTROY THE HULK..HIS SPECIAL AIDE, MAJOR GLENN TALBOT...
...AND THE YOUNG MAN WHO PROBABLY KNOWS MORE ABOUT THE GREEN-SKINNED NEMESIS THAN ANY-ONE ALIVE... MR. RICK JONES!
NEEDLESS TO SAY, OUR TOPIC FOR TONIGHT IS...THE HULK! SO, GENTLE-MEN, IF WE MAY... LET'S GET RIGHT DOWN TO THE NITTY GRITTY, AS THEY SAY!
TELL US, GENERAL ROSS... ISN'T IT TRUE THAT YOUR BATTLE WITH THE HULK HAS BEEN A TOTAL FAILURE TO THIS POINT?
I'D SAY THAT'S PUTTING IT A LITTLE STRONGLY, MR. KLYNE! WE'VE ACTUALLY SUCCEEDED IN A NUMBER OF...
OH, COME NOW, GENERAL! DON'T TRY TO CON THE PUBLIC!
NOW JUST A SECOND, KLYNE! PERHAPS YOU'RE JUST IGNORANT OF THE FACTS!
LIKE THE PUBLIC AS A WHOLE, YOU PROBABLY AREN'T AWARE OF THAT BEAST'S STRENGTH!
I HAVE SOME FILM CLIPS I'D LIKE TO SHOW WITH YOUR PERMISSION, THAT MAY OPEN YOUR EYES AS TO JUST WHY THE HULK IS STILL AT LARGE!
IN THIS SCENE, TAKEN ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO--THE HULK DESTROYS A FIFTY-STORY BUILDING WITH A SINGLE BLOW!
WE CAN SEE THAT, MAJOR--BUT WE ALREADY KNEW HE WASN'T A 98-POUND WEAKLING!
I'M NOT FINISHED YET! HERE YOU SEE HIM GETTING THE BEST OF THE THING!
IF THAT DOESN'T PROVE HE'S NO ORDINARY MENACE...
WE REALIZE HE'S NOT ORDINARY, MAJOR--BUT SURELY YOU DON'T CONSIDER THIS PROOF THAT HE'S UNSTOPABLE?
4

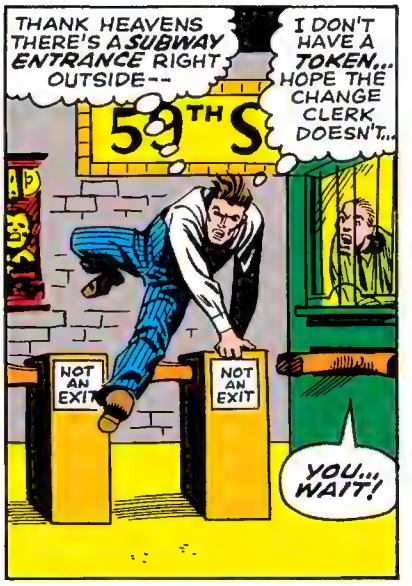

BUT, WHILE THE TRIAL BY TUBE CONTINUES...
I'VE MADE IT TO THE BASEMENT WITHOUT BEING SEEN...BUT I CAN'T STAY HERE INDEFINITELY!
I HAVE TO THINK OF SOMEWHERE TO GO!
UH OH! VOICES IN THE NEXT ROOM!
HAVE TO BE MORE CAREFUL! I ALMOST WALKED RIGHT IN ON THEM!
THEN, SECONDS LATER, THE DISTRAUGHT SCIENTIST FINDS MOMENTARY RESPITE IN A DESERTED LOCKER ROOM...
IF I GIVE MYSELF UP--I'LL PROBABLY BE LOCKED AWAY FOR LIFE!
YET, IF I DON'T, I'M CERTAIN TO BECOME THE HULK AGAIN...
...AND GOD ONLY KNOWS WHAT OR WHO I MIGHT HARM!

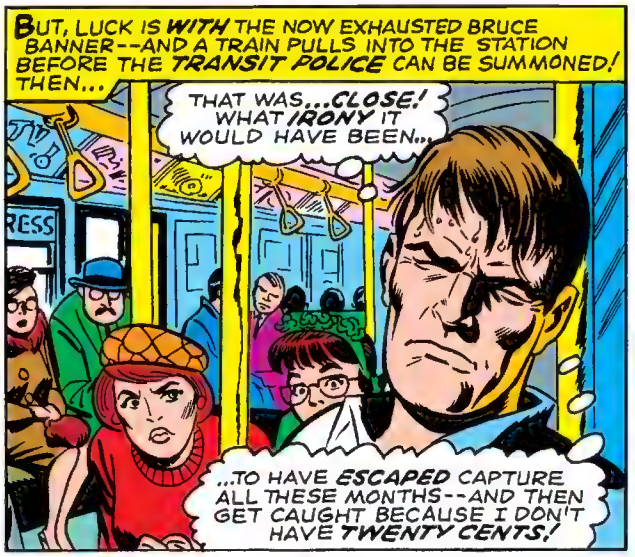

HOWEVER, THOUGH HE CANNOT KNOW IT, THINGS ARE DESTINED TO GET A LOT WORSE FOR THE TORTURED FUGITIVE...
FOR, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, THOUSANDS OF FEET ABOVE...BEAMING IN ON AN EARTH-BASED TELECAST...
THE SPACE PARASITE HAS FOUND HIS PREY... ON THE RELATIVELY PRIMITIVE PLANET EARTH!
IF I CAN BUT ABSORB HIS POWER--IT WILL BE ENOUGH TO NOURISH MY SYSTEM FOR MONTHS... PERHAPS EVEN YEARS!

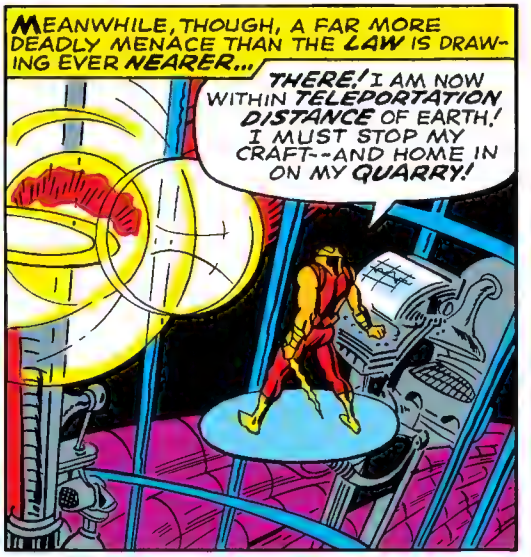

MY COURSE IS NOW SET FOR THE CITY EARTHLINGS CALL NEW YORK! THERE I WILL FIGHT MY GREATEST BATTLE...
...AND THERE I WILL WIN MY SWEETEST VICTORY...OVER THE GREEN-HUED GARGOYLE KNOWN ONLY AS... THE HULK!
FOR I WAS CREATED TO DESTROY! ONLY THROUGH THE DESTRUCTION OF OTHERS MAY I EXIST!
WHEN AN OPPONENT FALLS, HIS STRENGTH FLOWS INTO ME... AND BECOMES MY OWN LIFE-BLOOD!
SO IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN ...AND SO IT SHALL ALWAYS BE FOR... THE SPACE PARASITE!

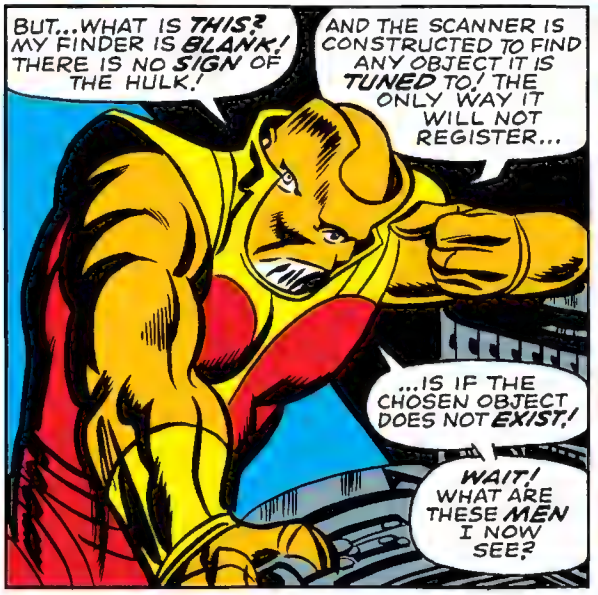
AND, AS THE STRANGE SPACE-CRAFT HURTLES TOWARD EARTH...
I HAVE NO RIGHT TO INVOLVE HIM! I'VE CAUSED HIM TOO MUCH GRIEF ALREADY...
...BUT THERE'S NO ONE ELSE I CAN TURN TO!
IF I CAN JUST FIND RICK JONES' ADDRESS!

HOWEVER, SECONDS LATER...
HEY...YOU! WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE AT THIS TIME'A NIGHT?
HOLD IT! COME BACK HERE!
GOT THE ADDRESS ...BUT HAVE TO LOSE THAT GUARD!

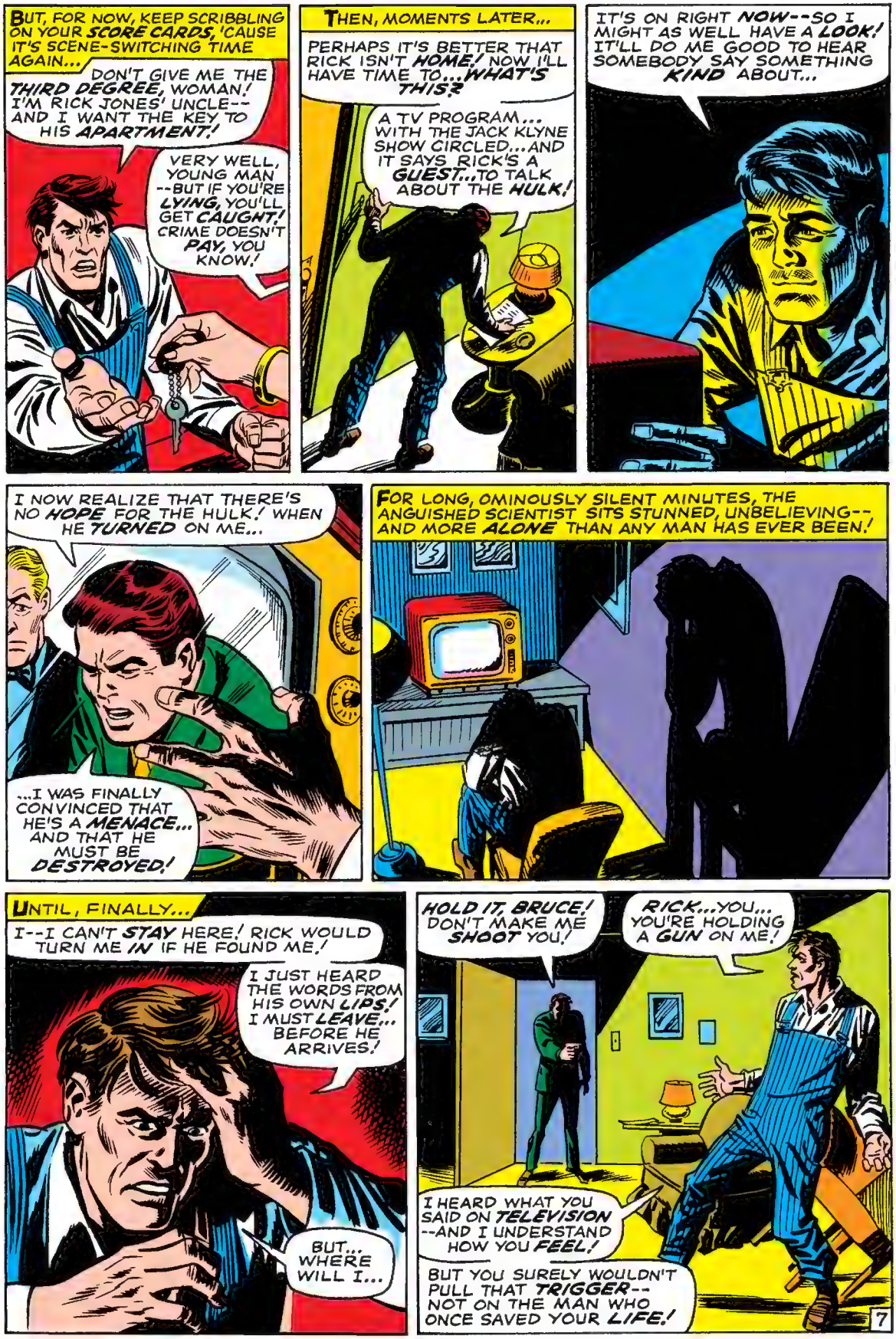

THANK HEAVENS THERE'S A SUBWAY ENTRANCE RIGHT OUTSIDE--
59TH S
I DON'T HAVE A TOKEN... HOPE THE CHANGE CLERK DOESN'T...
NOT AN EXIT
NOT AN EXIT
YOU... WAIT!


BUT, LUCK IS WITH THE NOW EXHAUSTED BRUCE BANNER--AND A TRAIN PULLS INTO THE STATION BEFORE THE TRANSIT POLICE CAN BE SUMMONED! THEN...
THAT WAS...CLOSE! WHAT IRONY IT WOULD HAVE BEEN...
...TO HAVE ESCAPED CAPTURE ALL THESE MONTHS--AND THEN GET CAUGHT BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE TWENTY CENTS!

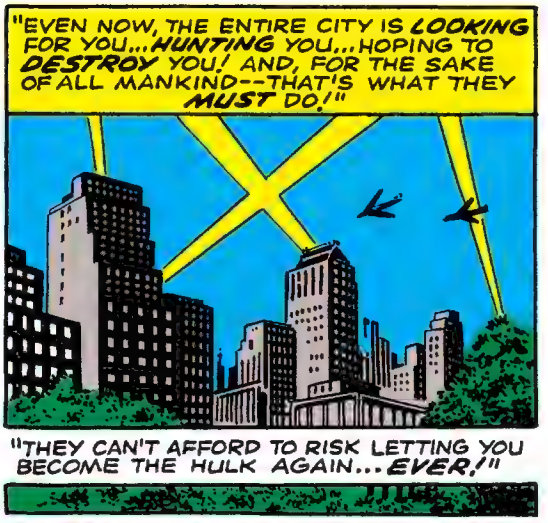

MEANWHILE, THOUGH, A FAR MORE DEADLY MENACE THAN THE LAW IS DRAWING EVER NEARER...
THERE! I AM NOW WITHIN TELEPORTATION DISTANCE OF EARTH! I MUST STOP MY CRAFT--AND HOME IN ON MY QUARRY!


BUT...WHAT IS THIS? MY FINDER IS BLANK! THERE IS NO SIGN OF THE HULK!
AND THE SCANNER IS CONSTRUCTED TO FIND ANY OBJECT IT IS TUNED TO! THE ONLY WAY IT WILL NOT REGISTER...
...IS IF THE CHOSEN OBJECT DOES NOT EXIST!
WAIT! WHAT ARE THESE MEN I NOW SEE?

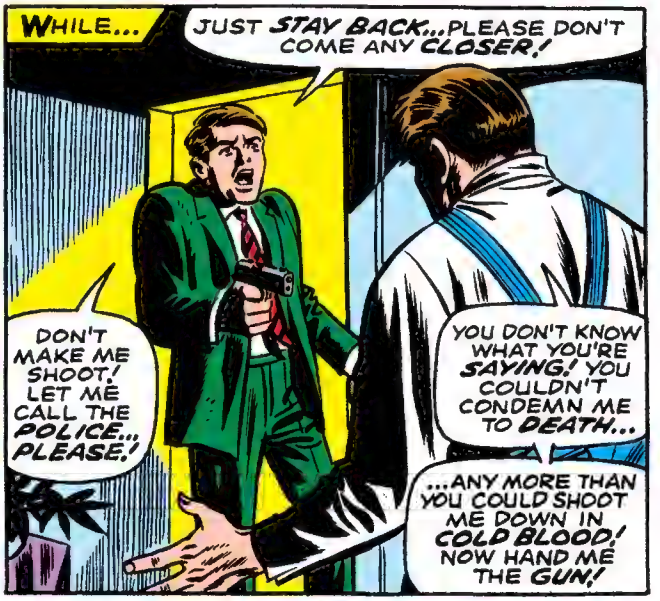
SUPPOSING YOU TELL US HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THE HULK, MR. JONES?
DO YOU STILL CONTEND HE IS NOT A MENACE?
WELL, SIR... I...


BUT, FOR NOW, KEEP SCRIBBLING ON YOUR SCORE CARDS, 'CAUSE IT'S SCENE-SWITCHING TIME AGAIN...
DON'T GIVE ME THE THIRD DEGREE, WOMAN! I'M RICK JONES' UNCLE--AND I WANT THE KEY TO HIS APARTMENT!
VERY WELL, YOUNG MAN --BUT IF YOU'RE LYING, YOU'LL GET CAUGHT! CRIME DOESN'T PAY, YOU KNOW!
THEN, MOMENTS LATER...
PERHAPS IT'S BETTER THAT RICK ISN'T HOME! NOW I'LL HAVE TIME TO...WHAT'S THIS?
A TV PROGRAM... WITH THE JACK KLYNE SHOW CIRCLED...AND IT SAYS RICK'S A GUEST...TO TALK ABOUT THE HULK!
IT'S ON RIGHT NOW--SO I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE A LOOK! IT'LL DO ME GOOD TO HEAR SOMEBODY SAY SOMETHING KIND ABOUT...
I NOW REALIZE THAT THERE'S NO HOPE FOR THE HULK! WHEN HE TURNED ON ME...
...I WAS FINALLY CONVINCED THAT HE'S A MENACE... AND THAT HE MUST BE DESTROYED!
FOR LONG, OMINOUSLY SILENT MINUTES, THE ANGUISHED SCIENTIST SITS STUNNED, UNBELIEVING--AND MORE ALONE THAN ANY MAN HAS EVER BEEN!
UNTIL, FINALLY...
I--I CAN'T STAY HERE! RICK WOULD TURN ME IN IF HE FOUND ME!
I JUST HEARD THE WORDS FROM HIS OWN LIPS! I MUST LEAVE... BEFORE HE ARRIVES!
BUT... WHERE WILL I...
HOLD IT, BRUCE! DON'T MAKE ME SHOOT YOU!
RICK...YOU... YOU'RE HOLDING A GUN ON ME!
I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID ON TELEVISION --AND I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL!
BUT YOU SURELY WOULDN'T PULL THAT TRIGGER-- NOT ON THE MAN WHO ONCE SAVED YOUR LIFE!
7

YOU...YOU'RE DEAD WRONG, BRUCE! I HAVE NO CHOICE!
AS LONG AS THERE'S ANY CHANCE OF YOU TURNING INTO THE HULK AGAIN...
...YOU'RE A DEADLY MENACE!


"EVEN NOW, THE ENTIRE CITY IS LOOKING FOR YOU...HUNTING YOU...HOPING TO DESTROY YOU! AND, FOR THE SAKE OF ALL MANKIND--THAT'S WHAT THEY MUST DO!"
"THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO RISK LETTING YOU BECOME THE HULK AGAIN...EVER!"

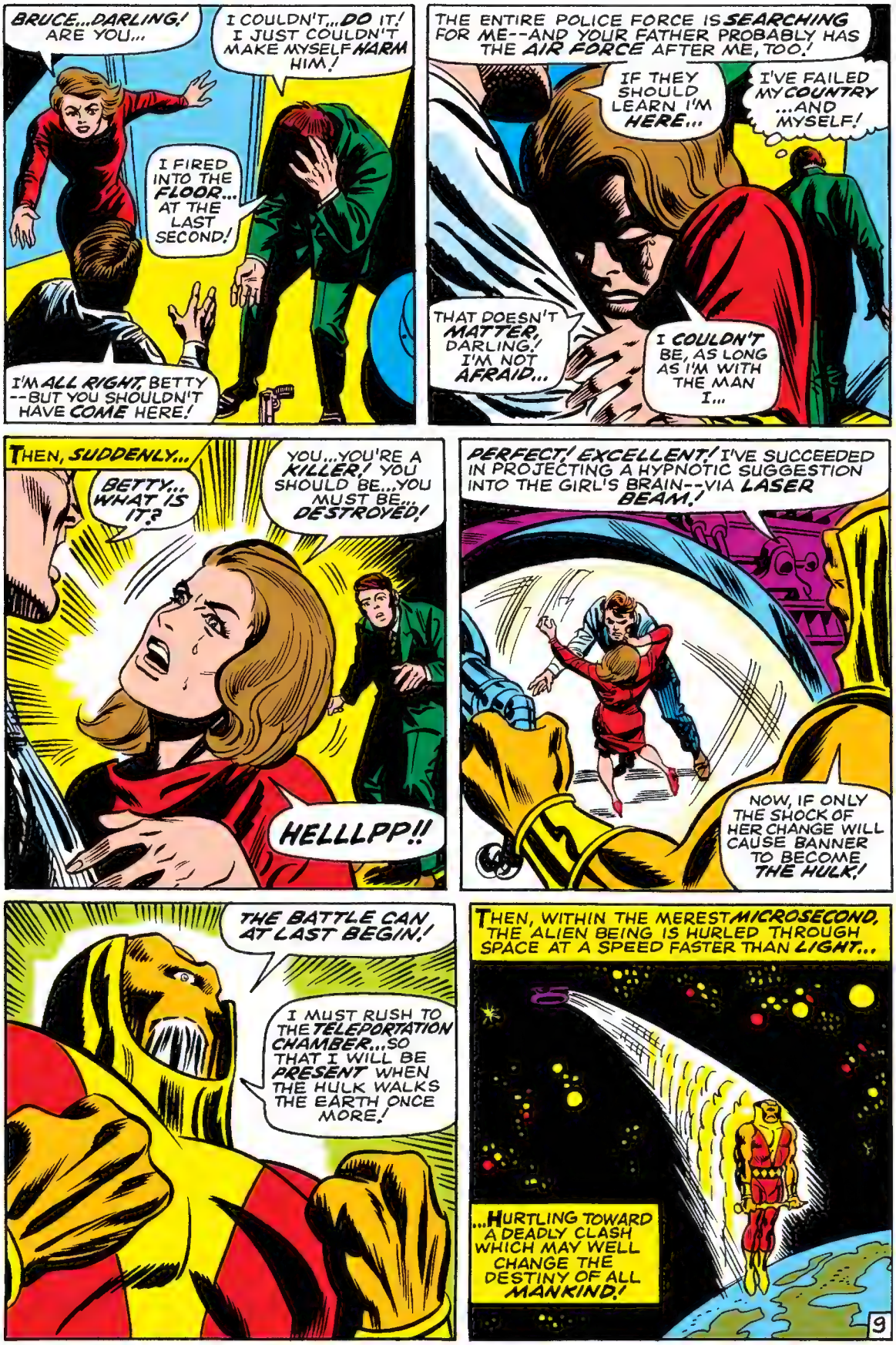
AND, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, HIGH ABOVE THE BRIGHTLY-LIT CITY...
SO THAT IS THE ANSWER...BRUCE BANNER AND THE HULK ARE ONE AND THE SAME!
WHICH MEANS I MUST FACE BANNER--AND SOMEHOW TURN HIM BACK INTO... THE HULK!


WHILE...
JUST STAY BACK...PLEASE DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
DON'T MAKE ME SHOOT! LET ME CALL THE POLICE... PLEASE!
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING! YOU COULDN'T CONDEMN ME TO DEATH...
...ANY MORE THAN YOU COULD SHOOT ME DOWN IN COLD BLOOD! NOW HAND ME THE GUN!

BUT, AS BRUCE BANNER INCHES EVER CLOSER TO HIS TORMENTED YOUNG CAPTOR...
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE RICK HAS TURNED AGAINST BRUCE!
SOMEONE MUST HAVE FORCED HIM TO SAY THOSE TERRIBLE THINGS ON TV!
IF HE DOES MEAN IT, THOUGH...I MUST HEAR IT FROM HIM IN PERSON!

RICK, I'M SORRY TO BARGE IN LIKE...
RICK! NOOOOO!

KRAK!


BRUCE...DARLING! ARE YOU...
I COULDN'T...DO IT! I JUST COULDN'T MAKE MYSELF HARM HIM!
I FIRED INTO THE FLOOR... AT THE LAST SECOND!
I'M ALL RIGHT, BETTY --BUT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE!
THE ENTIRE POLICE FORCE IS SEARCHING FOR ME--AND YOUR FATHER PROBABLY HAS THE AIR FORCE AFTER ME, TOO!
IF THEY SHOULD LEARN I'M HERE...
I'VE FAILED MY COUNTRY ...AND MYSELF!
THAT DOESN'T MATTER, DARLING! I'M NOT AFRAID...
I COULDN'T BE, AS LONG AS I'M WITH THE MAN I...
THEN, SUDDENLY...
BETTY... WHAT IS IT?
YOU...YOU'RE A KILLER! YOU SHOULD BE...YOU MUST BE... DESTROYED!
HELLLPP!!
PERFECT! EXCELLENT! I'VE SUCCEEDED IN PROJECTING A HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION INTO THE GIRL'S BRAIN--VIA LASER BEAM!
NOW, IF ONLY THE SHOCK OF HER CHANGE WILL CAUSE BANNER TO BECOME THE HULK!
THE BATTLE CAN AT LAST BEGIN!
I MUST RUSH TO THE TELEPORTATION CHAMBER...SO THAT I WILL BE PRESENT WHEN THE HULK WALKS THE EARTH ONCE MORE!
THEN, WITHIN THE MEREST MICROSECOND, THE ALIEN BEING IS HURLED THROUGH SPACE AT A SPEED FASTER THAN LIGHT...
...HURTLING TOWARD A DEADLY CLASH WHICH MAY WELL CHANGE THE DESTINY OF ALL MANKIND!
9

UNTIL...
BEGONE, PUNY EARTHLING...AND SUMMON FORTH THE GREEN-SKINNED GARGOYLE I COME TO CONQUER!
SUCH IS THE AWESOME CHALLENGE OF...THE SPACE PARASITE!
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE...OR WHAT YOU WANT...
BUT I CAN'T BECOME THE HULK AT WILL!
MY PULSE... SUDDENLY POUNDING! HEAD... STARTING TO SPIN!
I MUSTN'T BECOME THE HULK NOW, THOUGH...NOT WITH BETTY HERE!
NO USE... CAN'T HELP MYSELF!
NO WAY TO STOP IT!
ONCE AGAIN I'VE BECOME...
THE HULK!
AT LAST! I AM FACE TO FACE WITH THE ONE FOE WHO CAN ASSURE MY EXISTENCE FOR COUNTLESS YEARS!
FOLLOW ME, YOU AWESOME ABOMINATION--THAT WE MAY MEET ON A FITTING BATTLEGROUND!
HULK WILL FOLLOW! AND HULK WILL CRUSH YOU!

YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY FROM HULK!
EVEN IN THE AIR--THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN ESCAPE ME!
THWAKOW!
YOUR BRAVERY IN ACCEPTING MY CHALLENGE IS ADMIRABLE...
...BUT IT WILL BRING ABOUT YOUR INEVITABLE DOOM!
EVEN NOW THE RAYS OF MY SOLAR SCEPTER BEGIN TO SAP THE STRENGTH FROM YOUR BODY!
:ARRRGGGHHHH!:
BUT...WHAT IS THIS? THE SOLAR BLASTS ONLY STUNNED YOU!
IN THE PAST, RAYS OF SUCH INTENSITY WOULD TOTALLY DRAIN THE POWER OF A HUNDRED MEN!
HULK IS STRONGER THAN A THOUSAND MEN! NO PUNY WEAPON CAN STOP ME!
THEN LET OUR BATTLE BE ONE OF SHEER, BRUTE FORCE...
...FOR BY MERELY TOUCHING YOU, I CAN TRANSFER THE POWER WHICH COURSES THROUGH YOUR BODY...
...INTO MINE!
HOWEVER, AS THE TWO MIGHTY TITANS CLASH OVER THE ROOFTOPS OF NEW YORK...
...THEY ARE WATCHED WITH INTENSE CONCERN FROM MILLIONS OF MILES AWAY ON THE PLANET XERON...
WE HAVE FOUND HIM...AT LAST! EVEN TO THIS DAY... RANDAU LIVES!
YES...JUST AS WE HAVE FEARED FOR THESE MANY YEARS!
BUT, NOW THAT WE HAVE LOCATED HIM... WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

THAT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS, EXCELLENCY!
RANDAU MUST BE... DESTROYED!
CAN YOU SPEAK SO CASUALLY ABOUT KILLING HIM WE ONCE CALLED KING?
I CAN-NOT!
"TOO WELL DO I REMEMBER THE DAY WHEN RANDAU RULED OVER THE PERFECT XERONIAN SOCIETY..."
"PERFECT, THAT IS, UNTIL THAT FATEFUL DAY WHEN..."
SEE, EXCELLENCY--EVEN AT THIS MOMENT THE ALIEN INVADERS ATTACK A NEIGHBORING PLANET A MERE MILLION MILES AWAY!
AND, IF WE ALLOW THEM TO SO OVERRUN OUR NEIGHBORS--WILL THEY NOT SOON COME TO BELIEVE THEY CAN ALSO OVERRUN US?
ENOUGH, MY ADVISORS! THOUGH I BE A MAN OF PEACE...I CANNOT STAND IDLY BY AND SEE THE SECURITY OF MY PEOPLE THREATENED!
PREPARE THE SOLAR CHAMBER!
BUT, EXCELLENCY--IT IS AS YET UNTESTED! WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT EFFECTS IT MAY HAVE UPON A LIVING BODY!
"HOWEVER, FULLY AWARE OF THE GRAVE RISK INVOLVED RANDAU ENTERED THE SOLAR CHAMBER..."
"AND ALLOWED HIS BODY TO BE BATHED IN THE MYSTERIOUS RAYS OF RANDAU'S THIRD SUN!"
"THEN, WHEN HE EMERGED FROM THE CHAMBER..."
WE HAVE SUCCEEDED! I CAN FEEL THE TOTAL ENERGY OF THE UNIVERSE COURSING THROUGH MY BODY!
TAKE ME TO THE ENEMIES OF XERON--AND I SHALL CRUSH THEM!
IT--IT WORKED! RANDAU APPEARS TO HAVE BECOME A--A LIVING WEAPON!
YES, YOU FOOLS--AND HE HAS LIKEWISE BEEN CONVERTED FROM A JUST MONARCH OF PEACE--TO A HATE-FILLED CONQUEROR!

"BUT, OF COURSE, NO ONE WOULD LISTEN TO THE WORDS OF A DOVE-LIKE **OLD MAN...**"

"INSTEAD, THEY ALLOWED THEMSELVES TO BE FILLED WITH THE ALL-CONSUMING LUST FOR **WAR** AND **DEATH**--

HAVE NO FEAR, MY PEOPLE! ON THIS DAY, RANDAU STRIKES FOR **XERON**... THAT IT MAY NEVER KNOW THE FEAR OF INVASION **AGAIN!**

"AND, INDEED, RANDAU MADE GOOD HIS PROMISE! THE ENEMY WHICH ATTACKED XERON'S NEIGHBOR WAS MET AND **DESTROYED** BY HIM..."

"HOWEVER, WITH EVERY VICTORY, THE **STRENGTH** OF RANDAU SEEMED TO INCREASE A THOUSANDFOLD..."

"THEN, WHEN THE FINAL BATTLE WAS ENDED, RANDAU FOUND HE COULD NOT **STOP!** THOUGH HIS PEOPLE HAD BEEN SAVED--HIS THIRST FOR BATTLE LINGERED ON..."

"AND, INSTEAD OF **RETURNING**, HE CONTINUED ON AN ENDLESS QUEST FOR YET ANOTHER LIFE-GIVING SIP FROM THE VAT OF **BATTLE!**"

"...LEAVING BEHIND ONLY A **MESSAGE** WHICH PROVED UNACCEPTABLE TO MOST XERONIANS!"

HEAR THIS, MY PEOPLE,' RANDAU CONTINUES ON INTO THE UNKNOWN --FAR **BEYOND** THIS UNIVERSE OF OURS...

FOR SPACE IS **FILLED** WITH MENACES TO OUR PLANET-- AND RANDAU WILL NOT REST UNTIL THEY ALL HAVE BEEN **STAMPED OUT!**

"SO, FOR COUNTLESS YEARS SINCE, HE HAS ROAMED THE **HEAVENS** THEMSELVES--CONQUERING NEW **FOES** AT EACH STOP ALONG THE WAY..."

"UNTIL, TODAY, WE HAVE FINALLY COME TO REALIZE THAT HE FIGHTS **NOT** FOR XERON-- BUT TO FULFILL HIS **OWN** BODILY NEEDS..."

"...A NEED WHICH COMMANDS THE FRESH STRENGTH OF A FOE BE ABSORBED INTO HIS BODY AT FREQUENT INTERVALS..."

"...FOR THERE IS NO OTHER WAY HE CAN **SURVIVE!**"

AH...THROUGH MY OWN **REMEMBRANCES** I HAVE FOUND THE ANSWER WE SEEK!

EVEN THOUGH ONCE RANDAU MAY HAVE **SAVED** US--HE NOW IS THE PERSONIFICATION OF ALL THAT OUR PEOPLE **DESPISE**...**HATE, WAR, AND DEATH!**

OUR COURSE OF ACTION IS **CLEAR**...

...**RANDAU MUST DIE!**

BUT, WHILE THE XERONIANS PREPARE TO MAKE A FATEFUL *MOVE*, LET'S SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING BACK ON THE *NEW YORK SCENE*...

HULK... LOSING GRIP!

GOING TO FALL... BACK TO EARTH!

AND FALL THE JOLLY GREEN GOLIATH *DOES*--AND HE LANDS, WOULD'JA BELIEVE RIGHT IN THE GOVERNOR'S BOX AT *YANKEE STADIUM!**

THWUMP!

*BREATHE EASY, YANK FANS! MICKEY MANTLE AND COMPANY ARE BUSILY ENGAGED AT *SHEA STADIUM* IN THE MAYOR'S-TROPHY GAME WITH THE METS!--SUPER-FAN STAN.

IT IS UNBELIEVABLE! YOU ARE NOT FACED BY A FALL OF SEVERAL HUNDRED *FEET!*

BUT, EVEN STRENGTH AS REMARKABLE AS *YOURS* SHALL AVAIL YOU *NAUGHT!*

CRACK!

FOR NOW I SHALL SUMMON ALL MY *MIGHT* TO STRIKE A BLOW WHICH IS CERTAIN TO *STUN* YOU!

:UUNNNHHHH!:

THAT WAS NO MORE THAN A HARMLESS *BEE STING* TO HULK!

BUT NOW HULK IS TIRED OF PLAYING *GAMES!* NOW THE HULK WILL *ATTACK!*

THEN, AS THE STUNNED XERONIAN TUMBLES BACKWARD...

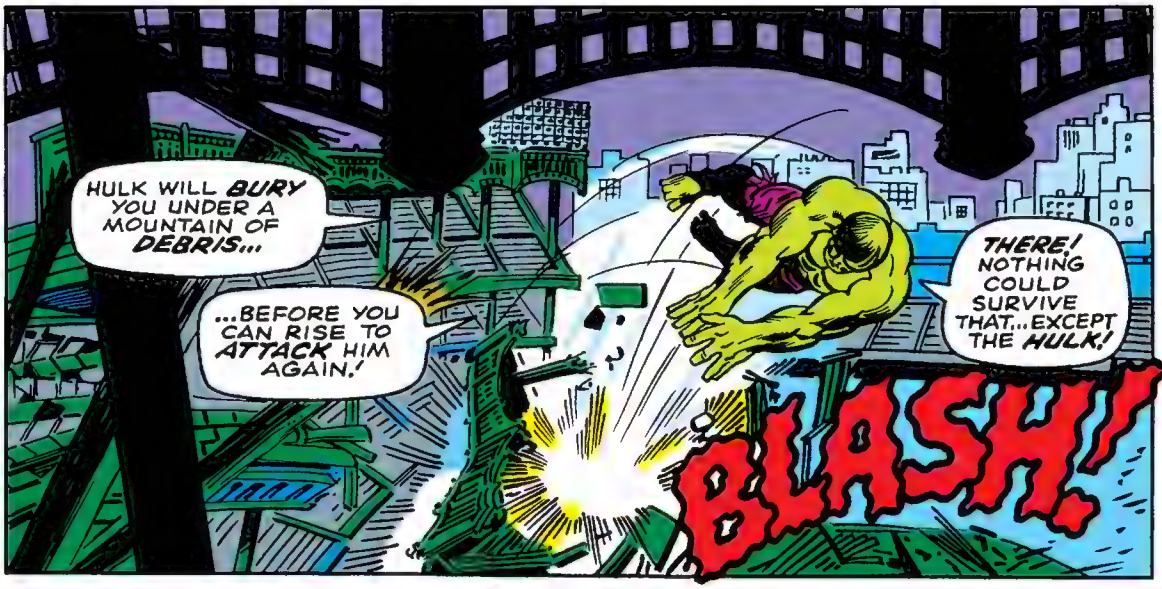
MAH! ONE LITTLE *BLOW* IS ENOUGH TO DEFEAT YOU!

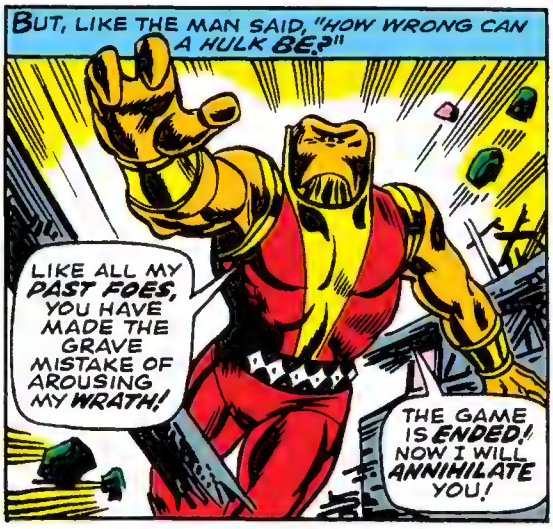
RAAAKK!

BUT HULK WON'T TAKE ANY *CHANCES!*

HULK WILL MAKE *SURE* YOU DON'T BOTHER HIM AGAIN!

THOOM!

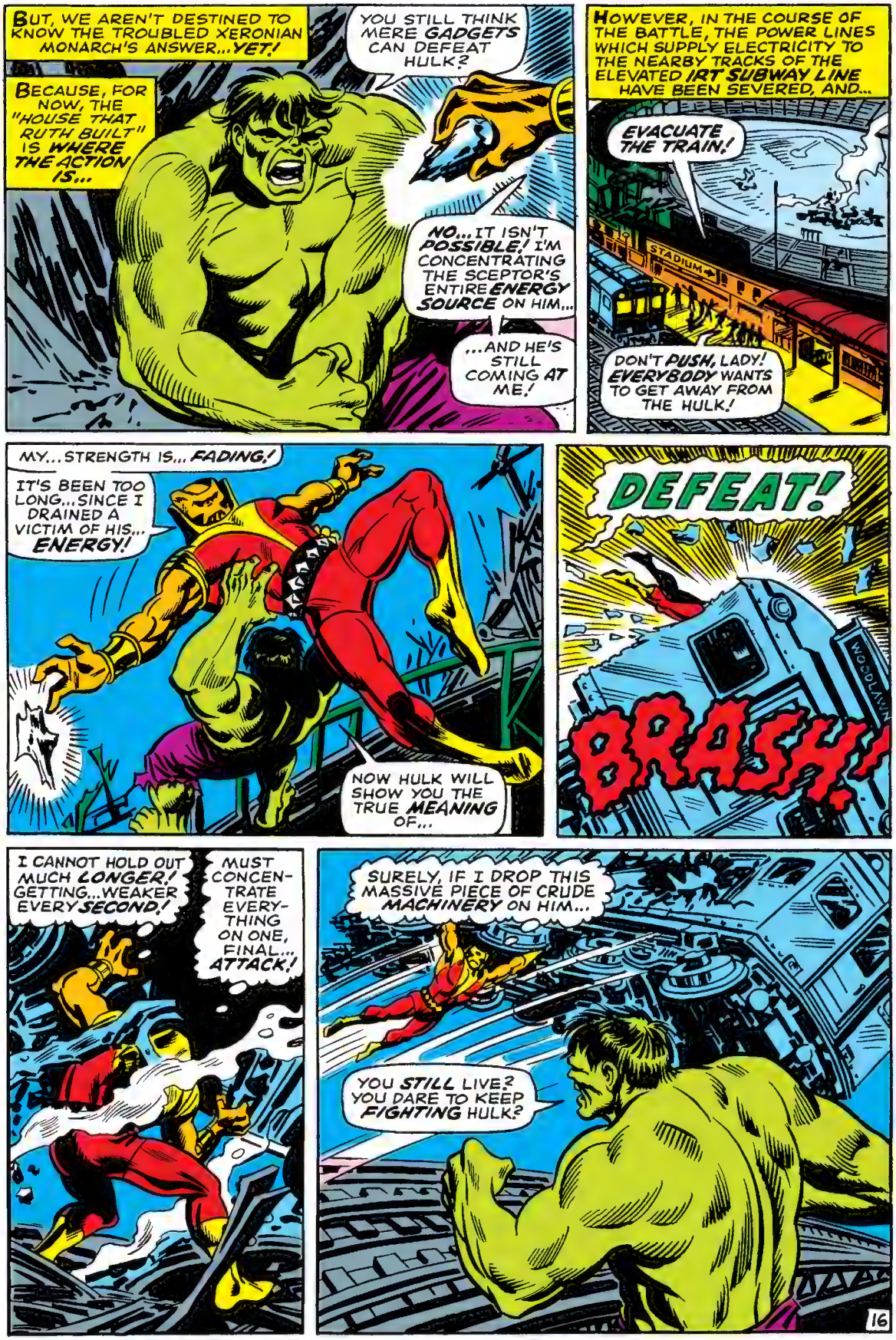

HULK WILL BURY YOU UNDER A MOUNTAIN OF DEBRIS...
...BEFORE YOU CAN RISE TO ATTACK HIM AGAIN!
THERE! NOTHING COULD SURVIVE THAT...EXCEPT THE HULK!
BLASH!

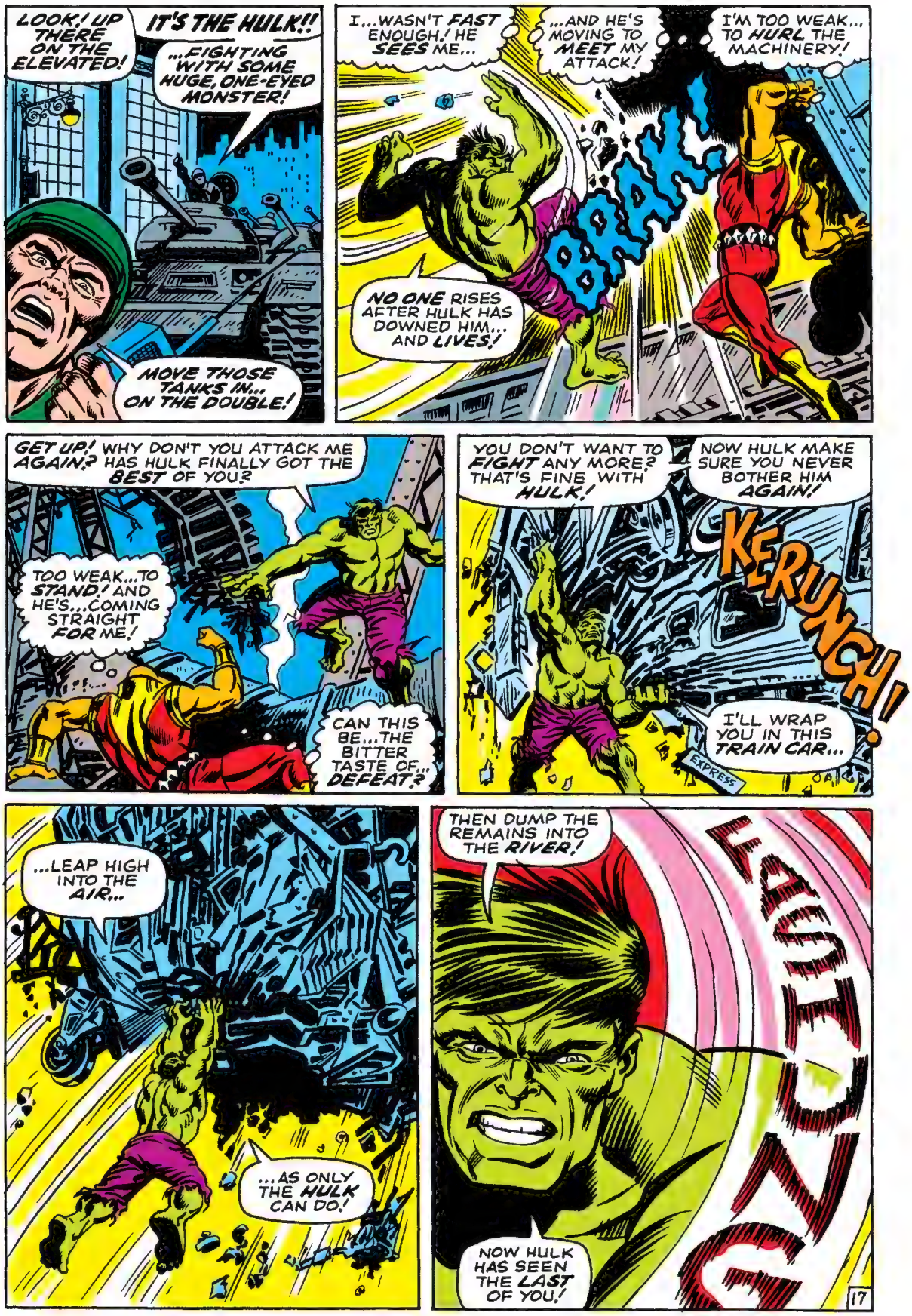

BUT, LIKE THE MAN SAID, "HOW WRONG CAN A HULK BE?"
LIKE ALL MY PAST FOES, YOU HAVE MADE THE GRAVE MISTAKE OF AROUSING MY WRATH!
THE GAME IS ENDED! NOW I WILL ANNIHILATE YOU!

EVERY TIME YOU STRIKE ME MORE OF YOUR STRENGTH BECOMES MY OWN...
...AND SO SHALL IT CONTINUE--UNTIL YOU ARE REDUCED TO HELPLESSNESS!
WHAAM!

AND NOW, WITH THIS REMAINING TIP OF MY SCEPTER, I SHALL DRAIN YOUR VERY LIFEBLOOD!
YOU WERE A VALOROUS FOE--BUT NO MATCH FOR... THE SPACE PARASITE!

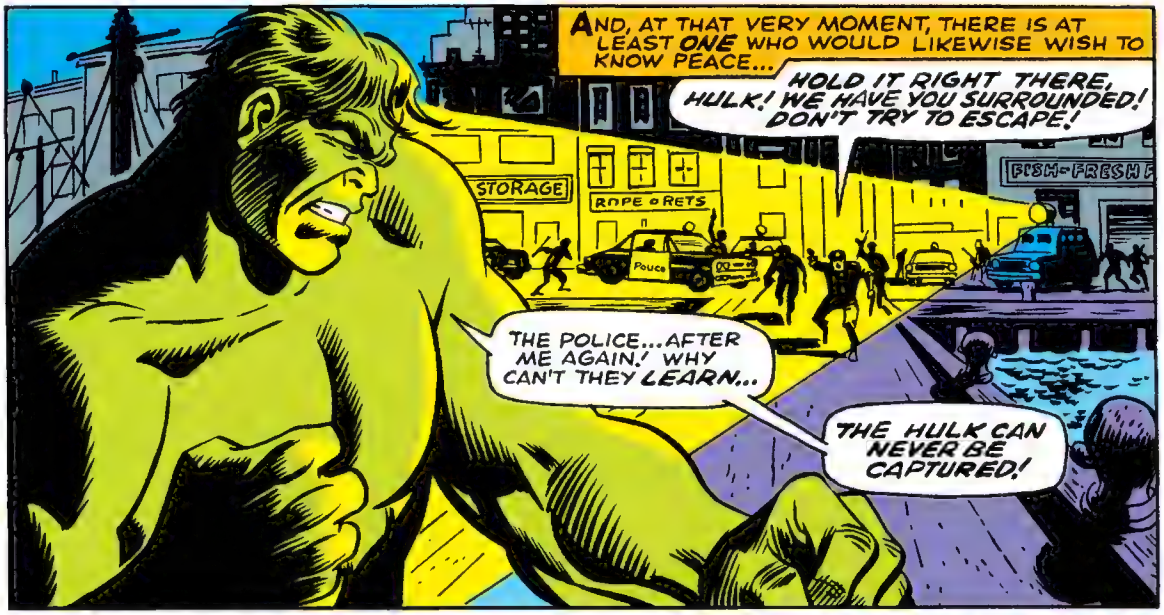
HOWEVER, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, BACK ON THE PLANET XERON...
OBSERVE, EXCELLENCY! RANDAU IS ABOUT TO SLAY YET ANOTHER FOE!
THE SELF-DESTRUCT MECHANISM ON HIS SHIP CAN NOW BE DETONATED BY US!
AS SOON AS HE RETURNS TO IT--EXCELLENCY, DO YOU NOT HEAR ME?

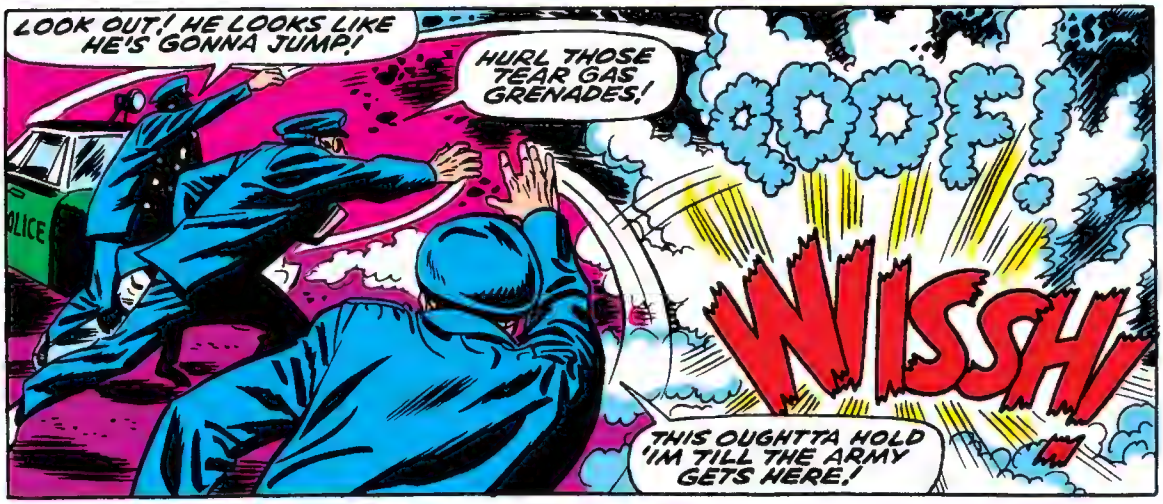

BUT, WE AREN'T DESTINED TO KNOW THE TROUBLED XERONIAN MONARCH'S ANSWER...YET!
BECAUSE, FOR NOW, THE "HOUSE THAT RUTH BUILT" IS WHERE THE ACTION IS...
YOU STILL THINK MERE GADGETS CAN DEFEAT HULK?
NO...IT ISN'T POSSIBLE! I'M CONCENTRATING THE SCEPTOR'S ENTIRE ENERGY SOURCE ON HIM...
...AND HE'S STILL COMING AT ME!
HOWEVER, IN THE COURSE OF THE BATTLE, THE POWER LINES WHICH SUPPLY ELECTRICITY TO THE NEARBY TRACKS OF THE ELEVATED IRT SUBWAY LINE HAVE BEEN SEVERED, AND...
EVACUATE THE TRAIN!
STADIUM
DON'T PUSH, LADY! EVERYBODY WANTS TO GET AWAY FROM THE HULK!
MY...STRENGTH IS...FADING!
IT'S BEEN TOO LONG...SINCE I DRAINED A VICTIM OF HIS...ENERGY!
NOW HULK WILL SHOW YOU THE TRUE MEANING OF...
DEFEAT!
WOODLAWN
BRASH!
I CANNOT HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER! GETTING...WEAKER EVERY SECOND!
MUST CONCENTRATE EVERYTHING ON ONE, FINAL... ATTACK!
SURELY, IF I DROP THIS MASSIVE PIECE OF CRUDE MACHINERY ON HIM...
YOU STILL LIVE? YOU DARE TO KEEP FIGHTING HULK?


LOOK! UP THERE ON THE ELEVATED!
IT'S THE HULK!!
...FIGHTING WITH SOME HUGE, ONE-EYED MONSTER!
MOVE THOSE TANKS IN... ON THE DOUBLE!
I...WASN'T FAST ENOUGH! HE SEES ME...
...AND HE'S MOVING TO MEET MY ATTACK!
I'M TOO WEAK... TO HURL THE MACHINERY!
BRAK!
NO ONE RISES AFTER HULK HAS DOWNED HIM... AND LIVES!
GET UP! AGAIN? WHY DON'T YOU ATTACK ME HAS HULK FINALLY GOT THE BEST OF YOU?
TOO WEAK...TO STAND! AND HE'S...COMING STRAIGHT FOR ME!
CAN THIS BE...THE BITTER TASTE OF... DEFEAT?
YOU DON'T WANT TO FIGHT ANY MORE? THAT'S FINE WITH HULK!
NOW HULK MAKE SURE YOU NEVER BOTHER HIM AGAIN!
KERUNCH!
I'LL WRAP YOU IN THIS TRAIN CAR...
EXPRESS
...LEAP HIGH INTO THE AIR...
...AS ONLY THE HULK CAN DO!
THEN DUMP THE REMAINS INTO THE RIVER!
NOW HULK HAS SEEN THE LAST OF YOU!
CAUGHT!
17

BUT, AS THE MANGLED MASS OF STEEL SINKS SLOWLY TOWARD THE RIVER'S BOTTOM...
BEING ENGULFED BY WATER...HAVE TO BREAK FREE!
MUSTN'T DIE THIS WAY!
THEN, SUMMONING EVERY BIT OF STRENGTH THAT REMAINS WITHIN HIS FATIGUED BEING, THE SPACE PARASITE STRAINS AGAINST THE METAL PRISON...
I AM KING... CANNOT DIE... EXCEPT IN... BATTLE!
STRENGTH... NEARLY GONE --BUT, THE METAL IS... GIVING!
I HAVE DONE IT! I AM FREE...
...FREE TO DIE... LIKE A WARRIOR BORN!
HOWEVER, AS THE CREATURE FROM THE FARTHEST REACHES OF OUTER SPACE SURFACES...
WHAT? HOW DID YOU ESCAPE? HOW COULD...
CAN'T MOVE...ANOTHER INCH! DEATH...VERY NEAR!
MUST FALL...BY THE HAND OF THE ONE WHO CONQUERED ME--!
HEAR ME...EARTHLING! YOU HAVE...VANQUISHED ME! NOW ACCORD ME THE HONOR TO... DIE IN...COMBAT!
WHAT? STRIKE ONE WHO'S WEAK...CAN'T FIGHT BACK?
NO! HULK ONLY FIGHTS THOSE THAT THREATEN HIM!
THEN...I MUST RETURN...TO MY SHIP! AT LEAST... I CAN DIE...ON HOME SOIL!
AND, WITH BUT A TOUCH OF HIS TELEPORTATION UNIT, THE BODY OF THE SPACE PARASITE FADES FROM VIEW!

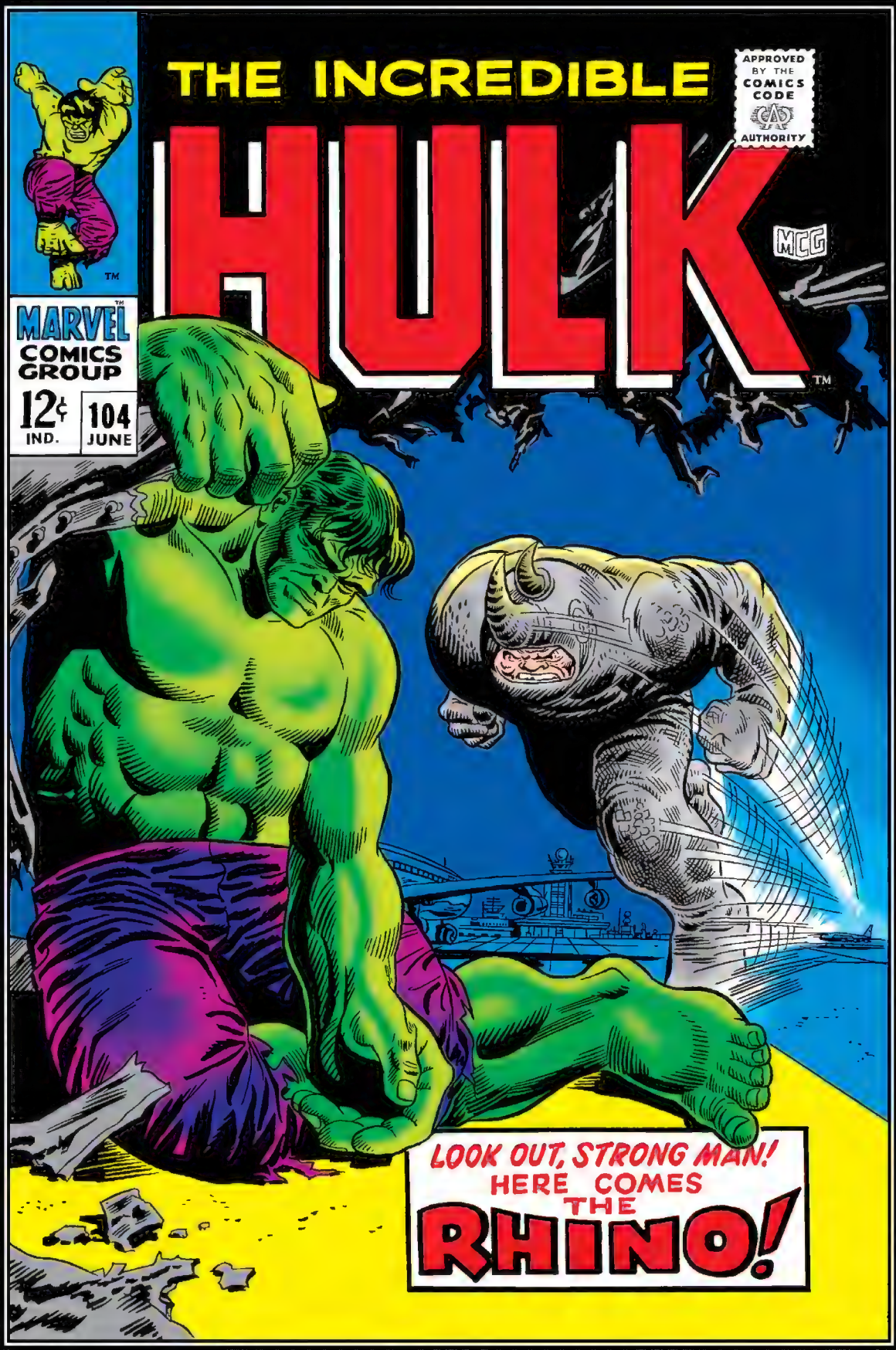
AND, EVEN AS HIS FORMER KING HURTLES THROUGH SPACE TOWARD HIS ORBITING CRAFT--THE RULER OF XERON PREPARES TO ACT...
THE MOMENT IS AT HAND! I NOW PRESS THE DETONATOR WHICH WILL DESTROY THE SHIP...AND RANDAU!
YOU CAN BE SURE THAT THEY WILL, EXCELLENCY! YOU DO WHAT HAS TO BE DONE!
MAY THE GODS FORGIVE ME!
THEN, WITHIN A MICROSECOND, HIGH ABOVE THE EARTH...
BROOOM!
HOWEVER, UNKNOWN TO THE XERONIANS, THE OBJECT OF THE ACTION WAS IN TELEPORTATIONAL TRAVEL AT THE MOMENT OF THE EXPLOSION--
SHIP... EXPLODED!
MY PEOPLE...MUST HAVE...LOCATED ME...AND ATTEMPTED TO...DESTROY ME!
NOWHERE TO GO...NOW! NO HOME TO... RETURN TO!
NOTHING LEFT... BUT...
SO...TIRED ...WEAK!
DEATH... SO NEAR!
THOUGH I AM TOTALLY... ALONE...
AT LEAST SOON...I SHALL ONCE AGAIN KNOW...THE MEANING OF...
PEACE!
19


AND, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, THERE IS AT LEAST ONE WHO WOULD LIKEWISE WISH TO KNOW PEACE...
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, HULK! WE HAVE YOU SURROUNDED! DON'T TRY TO ESCAPE!
STORAGE
ROPE & NETS
FISH-FRESH
Police
THE POLICE...AFTER ME AGAIN! WHY CAN'T THEY LEARN...
THE HULK CAN NEVER BE CAPTURED!


LOOK OUT! HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S GONNA JUMP!
HURL THOSE TEAR GAS GRENADES!
POLICE
OOOF!
WISSH!
THIS OUGHTTA HOLD 'IM TILL THE ARMY GETS HERE!

KEEP MOVIN' IN ON 'IM, JOE! WE GOTTA MAKE SURE HE'S HELPLESS!
IF HE ISN'T, I'VE GOT ENOUGH GAS IN THIS TANK TO STOP AN ELEPHANT!
YEAH...BUT IS IT ENOUGH TO STOP THE HULK?

BUT, AS THE MASKED POLICEMEN REACH THE SPOT WHERE THE HULK WAS LAST SEEN STANDING...
HE'S CHANGED BACK TO BANNER!
PUT 'EM UP HIGH, BUDDY!
DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT IT'S...
TO BE HULKINUED
TIME AGAIN!!!


THE INCREDIBLE
HULK
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MCG
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
104 JUNE
LOOK OUT, STRONG MAN! HERE COMES THE RHINO!

THE INCREDIBLE HULK!™

"RING AROUND THE RHINO!"

DAILY BUGLE

TEN CENTS

EXTRA

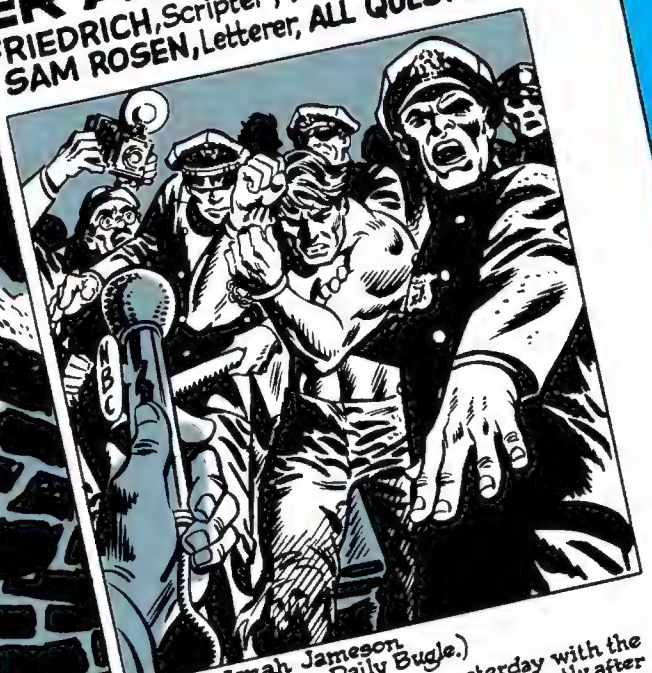
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1968

VOL. 4, NO 71

HULK CAPTURED!

HELD PRISONER AT SING SING!

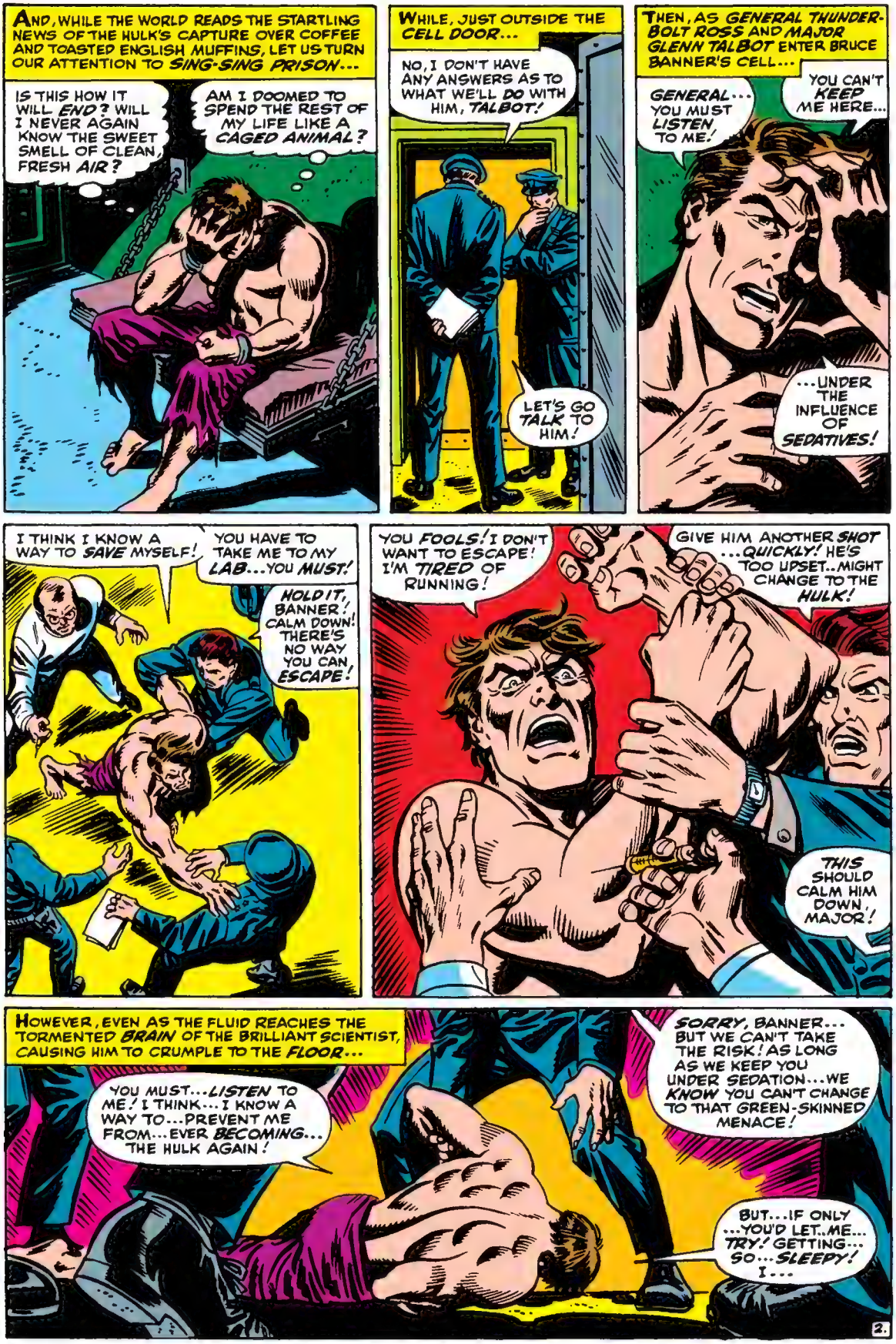
STAN LEE, Editor; GARY FRIEDRICH, Scripter; MARIE SEVERIN, Artist; FRANK GIACOIA, Inker, SAM ROSEN, Letterer, ALL QUESTIONED



By J. Jonah Jameson
(Publisher of The Daily Bugle.)

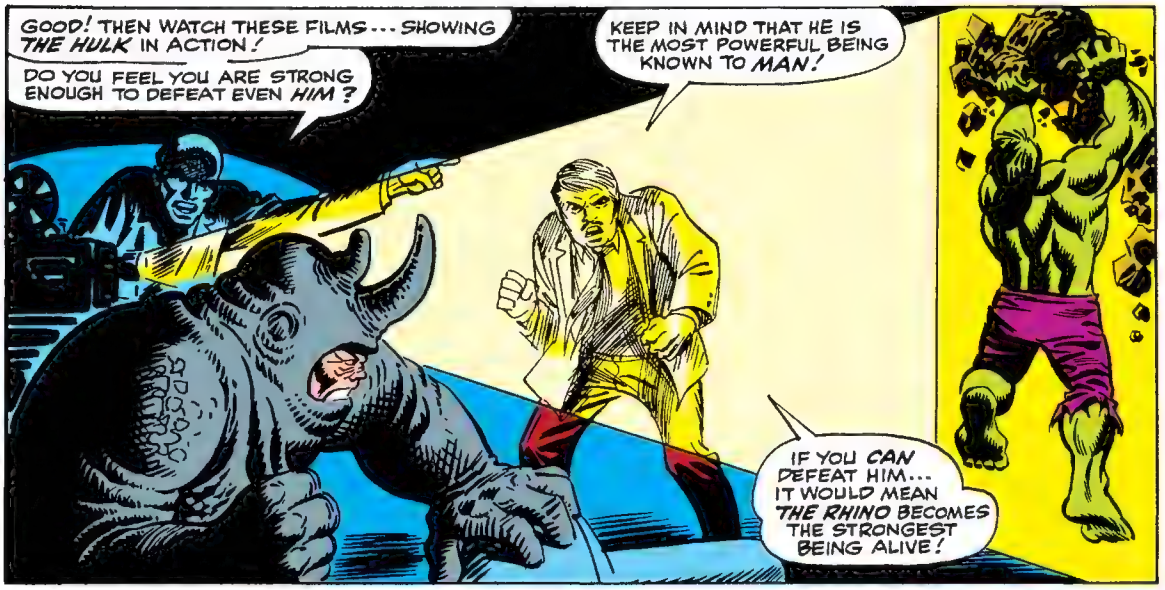
New York City-----Following a battle yesterday with the Space Parasite, the Hulk was captured...shortly after he had once again changed to his alter ego, gamma scientist Bruce Banner. He is being held under sedation at Sing-Sing Prison now believe it was possible once these questions

NEW ATTACK BY


AND, WHILE THE WORLD READS THE STARTLING NEWS OF THE HULK'S CAPTURE OVER COFFEE AND TOASTED ENGLISH MUFFINS, LET US TURN OUR ATTENTION TO SING-SING PRISON...
IS THIS HOW IT WILL END? WILL I NEVER AGAIN KNOW THE SWEET SMELL OF CLEAN, FRESH AIR?
AM I DOOMED TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE LIKE A CAGED ANIMAL?
WHILE, JUST OUTSIDE THE CELL DOOR...
NO, I DON'T HAVE ANY ANSWERS AS TO WHAT WE'LL DO WITH HIM, TALBOT!
LET'S GO TALK TO HIM!
THEN, AS GENERAL THUNDERBOLT ROSS AND MAJOR GLENN TALBOT ENTER BRUCE BANNER'S CELL...
GENERAL... YOU MUST LISTEN TO ME!
YOU CAN'T KEEP ME HERE...
...UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SEDATIVES!
I THINK I KNOW A WAY TO SAVE MYSELF!
YOU HAVE TO TAKE ME TO MY LAB...YOU MUST!
HOLD IT, BANNER! CALM DOWN! THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN ESCAPE!
YOU FOOLS! I DON'T WANT TO ESCAPE! I'M TIRED OF RUNNING!
GIVE HIM ANOTHER SHOT ...QUICKLY! HE'S TOO UPSET..MIGHT CHANGE TO THE HULK!
THIS SHOULD CALM HIM DOWN, MAJOR!
HOWEVER, EVEN AS THE FLUID REACHES THE TORMENTED BRAIN OF THE BRILLIANT SCIENTIST, CAUSING HIM TO CRUMPLE TO THE FLOOR...
YOU MUST...LISTEN TO ME! I THINK... I KNOW A WAY TO...PREVENT ME FROM... EVER BECOMING... THE HULK AGAIN!
SORRY, BANNER... BUT WE CAN'T TAKE THE RISK! AS LONG AS WE KEEP YOU UNDER SEDATION...WE KNOW YOU CAN'T CHANGE TO THAT GREEN-SKINNED MENACE!
BUT...IF ONLY ...YOU'D LET..ME... TRY! GETTING... SO... SLEEPY! I...
2.

BUT, AS THE POWERFUL DRUG OVERCOMES BANNER'S WILL TO REMAIN CONSCIOUS...
...LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN GET SHAKING VILLAIN-WISE...
WHAT'RE YOU GUYS WAITIN' FOR? I COULD DIE OF OLD AGE BEFORE YOU GET FINISHED AT THE RATE YOU'RE GOIN'!
PATIENCE ...PLEASE! IT WILL ONLY BE A FEW MINUTES MORE...
BEFORE THE RHINO SHALL AGAIN WALK THE EARTH!
PROMISES, PROMISES! HURRY IT UP, HUH?
AHHH, I WAITED THREE MONTHS! I DON'T GUESS A COUPL'A MORE MINUTES IS GONNA KILL ME!
"BUT IT SEEMS LIKE TEN YEARS AGO THAT I FIRST GOT OUTTA PRISON! *"
HOW CAN A GUY WHO USED TO BE THE RHINO GO TO BEIN' NOTHIN' BUT A CRUMMY EX-CON?
SO YER A FREE MAN AGAIN! SO WHAT? YOU AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' GOIN' FOR YA BUT YER PRISON RECORD!
*AND WE ALL KNOW WHAT FRIENDLY, NEIGHBORHOOD WEB-SPINNER PUT HIM THERE! RIGHT? RIGHT!... SURE-FIRE STAN.
"BUT, A FEW MINUTES LATER, THERE WUZ A KNOCK AT MY DOOR, AND..."
YOU SEEM SURPRIZED!
AND WE'VE COME NOT FOR REVENGE-- BUT TO OFFER YOU ...THIS!
DIDN'T YOU EXPECT TO EVER AGAIN MEET THOSE WHO GAVE YOU YOUR FORMER STRENGTH?
YER TALKIN' MY LANGUAGE! C'MON IN... BUT DON'T TRY NUTHIN' JUST 'CAUSE I DOUBLE-CROSSED YOU BEFORE!
"THEN, THEY TOLD ME THERE WASN'T NO HARD FEELIN'S... AND THAT THEY WANTED TO MAKE ME THE RHINO AGAIN..."
LOOK! THIS FILM SHOULD REMIND YOU OF HOW POWERFUL YOU ONCE WERE!
AND YOU CAN BE THAT STRONG ONCE MORE... IF YOU'LL ACCEPT OUR PROPOSAL!
SINCE I WASN'T IN NO POSITION TO REFUSE, I WENT ALONG WITH THE CREEPS!
AND NOW, IN A FEW MORE SECONDS, I'M GONNA TAKE A SECOND SHOT AT BEIN THE RHINO!
THE PROCESS IS FINISHED! YOU MAY COME DOWN NOW!
YOU TALKED ME INTO IT!
3.

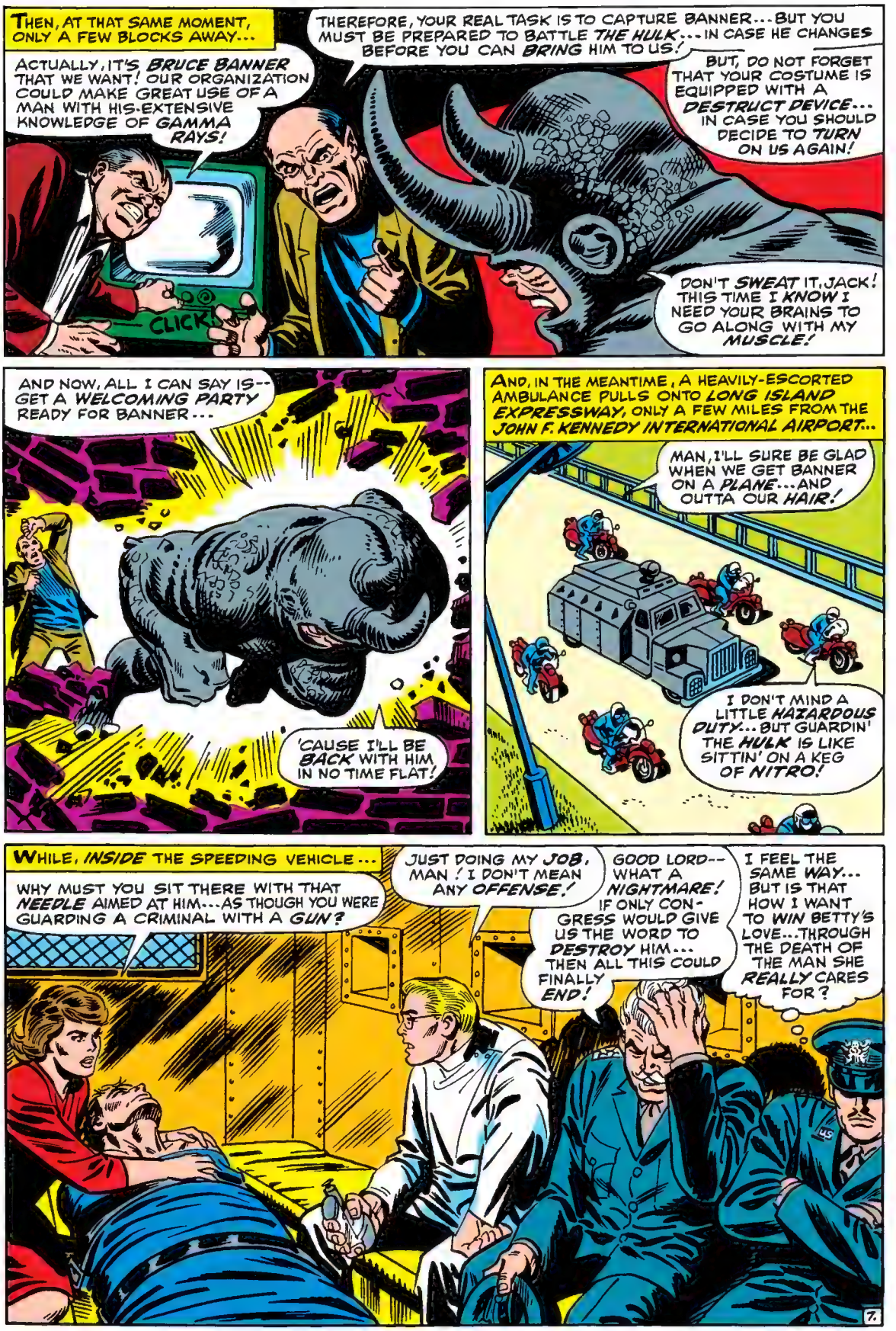
AND NOW, FOR THE FINISHING TOUCH... A NEW PROTECTIVE HIDE!
IT WILL MAKE YOU TWICE AS INVULNERABLE AS YOU WERE BEFORE!
THIS ONE IS FAR STRONGER THAN YOUR ORIGINAL COSTUME... AND WILL NOT BREAK DOWN IF EXPOSED TO AN ACID!*
*THAT'S HOW SPIDEY FINISHED HIM... WASN'T IT? ...NOT-SO-SURE STAN.
HEY... I CAN FEEL IT ALREADY! IT SEEMS LIKE THE NEW DUDS GIVE ME STRENGTH THEMSELVES!
DID YOU JOKERS FIGURE OUT A WAY TO MAKE THE SUIT GIVE ME MORE JUICE?
INDEED WE DID!
THE THREADS WITH WHICH THE COSTUME WAS WOVEN ARE TREATED TO COMPLIMENT THE STRENGTH GIVEN TO YOU BY GAMMA RAY BOMBARDMENTS!
...THE RHINO!
SO THAT'S WHAT YOU CLOWNS'VE BEEN SHOOTIN' ME FULL OF THE PAST FEW WEEKS! OH WELL, WHAT DO I CARE? THE MAIN THING IS, I'M STRONG AGAIN! I'M--
OF COURSE! YOU DIDN'T EXPECT US TO FAIL, DID YOU?
SILENCE! THIS MOMENT OF TRIUMPH IS NO TIME FOR QUIBBLING! WE MUST NOW GET DOWN TO OUR PROTÉGÉ'S FIRST MISSION IN OUR BEHALF!
JUST TELL ME WHAT TO DO! AIN'T NOTHIN' ON EARTH THAT CAN STOP ME!
4


GOOD! THEN WATCH THESE FILMS... SHOWING THE HULK IN ACTION!
DO YOU FEEL YOU ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO DEFEAT EVEN HIM?
KEEP IN MIND THAT HE IS THE MOST POWERFUL BEING KNOWN TO MAN!
IF YOU CAN DEFEAT HIM... IT WOULD MEAN THE RHINO BECOMES THE STRONGEST BEING ALIVE!

BAH! I CAN CRUSH HIM AS EASY AS I CAN RIP THIS SCREEN TO SHREDS! MAYBE EVEN EASIER!
I WUZ STUPID WHEN I LET SPIDER-MAN BEAT ME---BUT THAT'LL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN! JUST TELL ME WHERE TO FIND THE HULK... AND I'LL TEAR 'IM APART WITH MY BARE HANDS! HE'S AS GOOD AS DEAD RIGHT NOW!
RIPP!

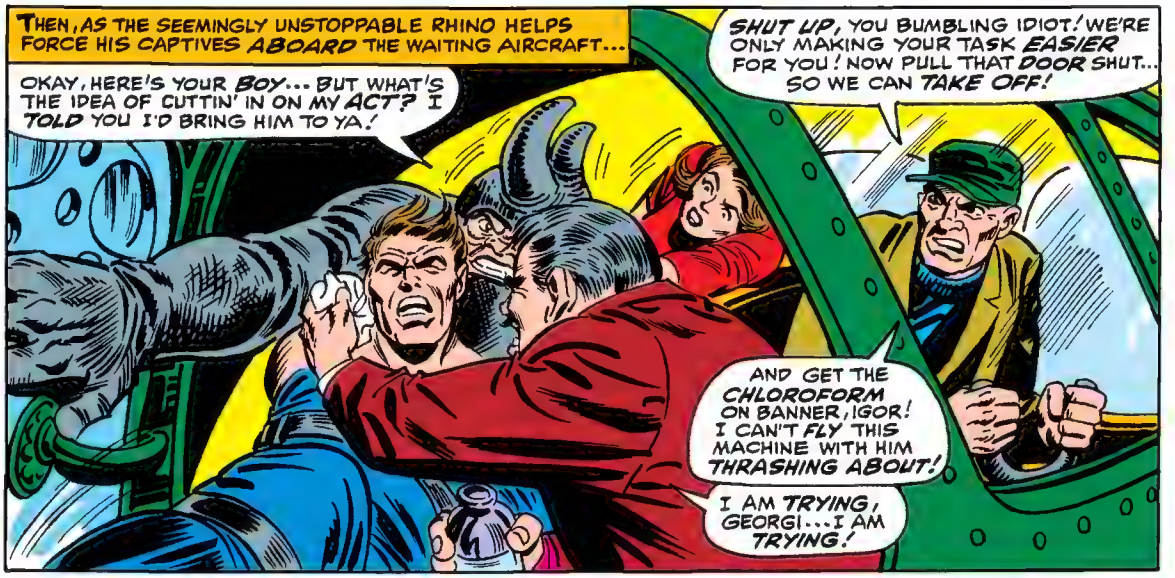
BUT, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, THE HULK IS VERY MUCH ALIVE... AT LEAST IN THE TORMENTED DREAMS OF BRUCE BANNER...
NO!
GO AWAY!
WHY MUST YOU HAUNT ME?
WHY CAN'T YOU LEAVE ME IN PEACE? WHY... WHY...
WHHHYYYY?

HURRY UP...MOVE HIM OUT! WE CAN'T BE SLOWED UP BECAUSE HE'S HAVING NIGHTMARES!
GET HIM INTO THE AMBULANCE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE! WE'RE DUE AT JFK AIRPORT IN TWO HOURS!
AND HE MAY WAKE UP AT ANY...
BRUCE...BRUCE DARLING! WHAT HAVE THEY DONE TO YOU? OH, FATHER... HOW COULD YOU?
I LOVE THIS MAN... AND YOU'RE TREATING HIM AS THOUGH HE WERE...A DANGEROUS WILD BEAST!
BETTY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO HELP HIM!
BUT... YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I CARE FOR HIM! AT LEAST LET ME RIDE TO THE AIRPORT WITH HIM!
SURELY YOU CAN LET ME SPEND A FEW LAST MINUTES WITH THE ONLY MAN I'LL EVER LOVE!
ALL RIGHT! BUT IT WON'T BE PLEASANT! HE'S TO BE CONFINED IN A HIGH-SECURITY PRISON FOR THE PRESENT--
...AND THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO CHANGE THAT!
THEN, AS THE UNCONSCIOUS SCIENTIST IS TAKEN TO A WAITING AMBULANCE, AN ANXIETY-WRACKED RICK JONES WATCHES THE PROCEEDINGS FROM HIS EAST VILLAGE APARTMENT...
I KNOW THIS IS ALL FOR THE BEST...AND STILL IT TEARS ME APART TO SEE BRUCE HAULED AWAY LIKE A MURDERER!
I'M SURE THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO AT THIS STAGE... BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME I JUST HAVE TO GO TO THE AIRPORT AND SEE HIM ONE LAST TIME!
MAYBE I CAN AT LEAST MAKE HIM UNDERSTAND WHY I TURNED AGAINST HIM... AND ASK HIM TO FORGIVE ME!
6

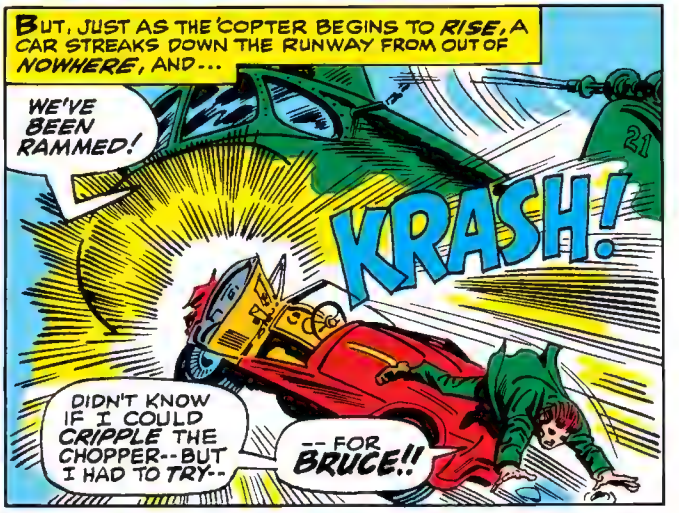

THEN, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, ONLY A FEW BLOCKS AWAY...
ACTUALLY, IT'S BRUCE BANNER THAT WE WANT! OUR ORGANIZATION COULD MAKE GREAT USE OF A MAN WITH HIS-EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF GAMMA RAYS!
CLICK
THEREFORE, YOUR REAL TASK IS TO CAPTURE BANNER... BUT YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO BATTLE THE HULK... IN CASE HE CHANGES BEFORE YOU CAN BRING HIM TO US!
BUT, DO NOT FORGET THAT YOUR COSTUME IS EQUIPPED WITH A DESTRUCT DEVICE... IN CASE YOU SHOULD DECIDE TO TURN ON US AGAIN!
DON'T SWEAT IT, JACK! THIS TIME I KNOW I NEED YOUR BRAINS TO GO ALONG WITH MY MUSCLE!
AND NOW, ALL I CAN SAY IS-- GET A WELCOMING PARTY READY FOR BANNER...
'CAUSE I'LL BE BACK WITH HIM IN NO TIME FLAT!
AND, IN THE MEANTIME, A HEAVILY-ESCORTED AMBULANCE PULLS ONTO LONG ISLAND EXPRESSWAY, ONLY A FEW MILES FROM THE JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT...
MAN, I'LL SURE BE GLAD WHEN WE GET BANNER ON A PLANE... AND OUTTA OUR HAIR!
I DON'T MIND A LITTLE HAZARDOUS DUTY... BUT GUARDIN' THE HULK IS LIKE SITTIN' ON A KEG OF NITRO!
WHILE, INSIDE THE SPEEDING VEHICLE...
WHY MUST YOU SIT THERE WITH THAT NEEDLE AIMED AT HIM... AS THOUGH YOU WERE GUARDING A CRIMINAL WITH A GUN?
JUST DOING MY JOB, MAN! I DON'T MEAN ANY OFFENSE!
GOOD LORD-- WHAT A NIGHTMARE! IF ONLY CONGRESS WOULD GIVE US THE WORD TO DESTROY HIM... THEN ALL THIS COULD FINALLY END!
I FEEL THE SAME WAY... BUT IS THAT HOW I WANT TO WIN BETTY'S LOVE... THROUGH THE DEATH OF THE MAN SHE REALLY CARES FOR?
7.

HOWEVER, LITTLE DOES THE MAJOR REALIZE THAT THOUGHTS OF HIS OWN DESIRES ARE DOOMED TO SOON BE FORGOTTEN, AS...
HIT THE BRAKES, MAN! THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE ROAD AHEAD OF US!
I SEE IT... BUT IT'S TOO LATE TO...
WHAMP!
WH--?? SOMETHING JUST RAMMED INTO THE AMBULANCE-- WITH THE SPEED OF AN EXPRESS TRAIN!
BUT, THE ESCORTING OFFICERS SOON LEARN THAT SOMETHING MORE THAN A MERE HIGHWAY ACCIDENT HAS TAKEN PLACE!
THUNKOW!
KRAK!
HOLY HANNAH! IT'S THE RHINO! HE MUST BE AFTER BANNER! WE HAVE TO STOP HIM... AT ALL COSTS!
GET OUTTA MY WAY, FUZZ! BULLETS AIN'T GONNA STOP THE STRONGEST MAN ALIVE!
NOBODY'S GONNA STOP THE RHINO FROM GETTIN' BRUCE BANNER... NOBODY!
RAKKK!
BRUCE... YOU MUST WAKE UP! EVERYONE ELSE WAS KNOCKED OUT IN THE CRASH! MAYBE YOU CAN...
OHHH--! THAT HUGE FIGURE-- RIPPING THRU THE DOOR--!
WHO...IS IT? CAN'T RISE--CAN HARDLY MOVE! I'M...HELPLESS...!
8

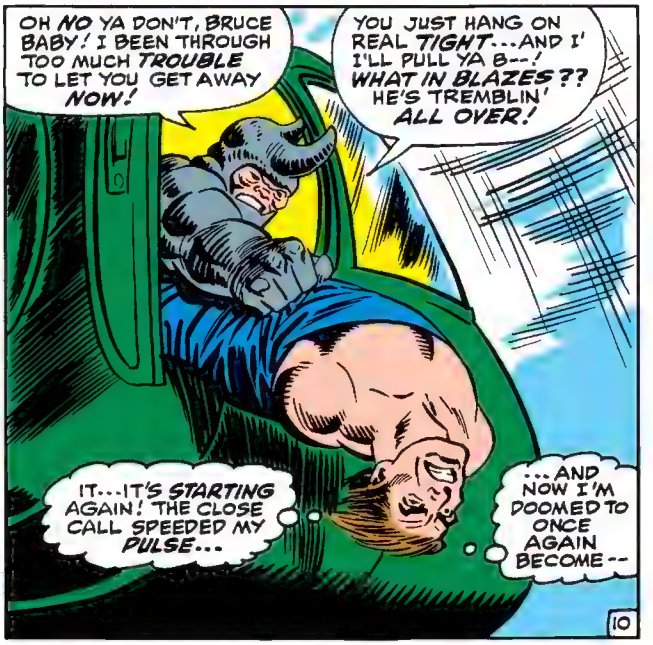
AND, AS THE MOST UNBELIEVABLE HEIST SINCE THE GREAT BOSTON MAIL ROBBERY IS TAKING PLACE...
THIS IS A BULLETIN! THE AMBULANCE CARRYING BRUCE BANNER HAS BEEN ATTACKED AT JFK AIRPORT! STAY TUNED FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN SOMETHING WOULD HAPPEN! I WAS DRIVEN HERE BY SOME STRANGE IMPULSE!
LUCKILY, I'M ONLY A COUPLE'A MINUTES AWAY! MAYBE I CAN DO SOMETHING WHEN I GET THERE!
WHILE, AT THE AIRPORT...
OUR BULLETS-- DON'T DO ANY GOOD!
LOOK! A HELICOPTER IS MOVING IN OVER THE AMBULANCE!
HOW IN HOLY HANNAH DOES IT FIGURE IN ALL THIS?
THEY JUST ENDANGER BANNER AND THE OTHERS!
CARGO TERMINAL
I'VE GOT THE CHLOROFORM READY FOR BANNER!
GOOD! NOW IF I CAN JUST GET THE RHINO TO PULL HIM ABOARD!
HE'LL PROBABLY BE OFFENDED... THINK WE DIDN'T TRUST HIM TO PULL OFF THE ABDUCTION BY HIMSELF!
WHICH, COME TO THINK OF IT, WE DIDN'T!
BUT, BY THE SAME TOKEN, NEITHER DO THE SCIENTISTS EXPECT A FRANTIC TEENAGER TO APPEAR ON THE SCENE...
THERE'S THE AMBULANCE... RIGHT UP AHEAD! GOTTA REALLY STEP ON IT!
IT LOOKS LIKE SOME COSTUMED GUY IS PULLING BRUCE ...AND BETTY ROSS TOWARD THAT HOVERING HELICOPTER!
THAT CHOPPER--IT'S THE RHINO'S GETAWAY VEHICLE!
TRAIN YOUR FIRE ON IT-- FAST!
MY PARTNERS... MOTIONING FOR ME TO GET INTO THAT 'COPTER!
THEY'RE GETTING AWAY WITH BANNER! STOP THEM! IN THE NAME OF REASON-- STOP THEM!
NYPD
THEY'LL BE PROUD OF ME FOR THINKING TO BRING THE GIRL ALONG!
SHE MAY HELP THEM BE ABLE TO CONTROL BANNER!
9.


THEN, AS THE SEEMINGLY UNSTOPPABLE RHINO HELPS FORCE HIS CAPTIVES ABOARD THE WAITING AIRCRAFT...
OKAY, HERE'S YOUR BOY... BUT WHAT'S THE IDEA OF CUTTIN' IN ON MY ACT? I TOLD YOU I'D BRING HIM TO YA.!
SHUT UP, YOU BUMBLING IDIOT! WE'RE ONLY MAKING YOUR TASK EASIER FOR YOU! NOW PULL THAT DOOR SHUT... SO WE CAN TAKE OFF!
AND GET THE CHLOROFORM ON BANNER, IGOR! I CAN'T FLY THIS MACHINE WITH HIM THRASHING ABOUT!
I AM TRYING, GEORGI... I AM TRYING!

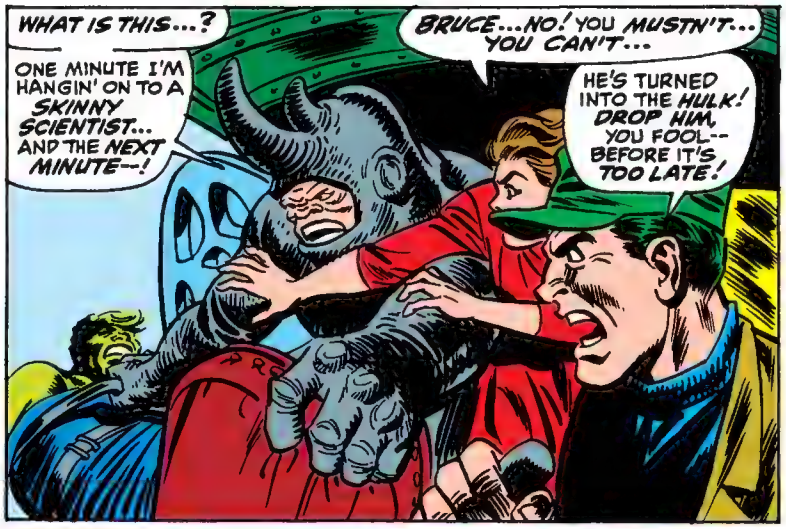
THERE! THAT SHOULD REST YOUR NERVES FOR A WHILE, BANNER!
JUST TAKE A BIG, DEEP BREATH!


BUT, JUST AS THE 'COPTER BEGINS TO RISE, A CAR STREAKS DOWN THE RUNWAY FROM OUT OF NOWHERE, AND...
WE'VE BEEN RAMMED!
KRASH!
DIDN'T KNOW IF I COULD CRIPPLE THE CHOPPER--BUT I HAD TO TRY--
--FOR BRUCE!!

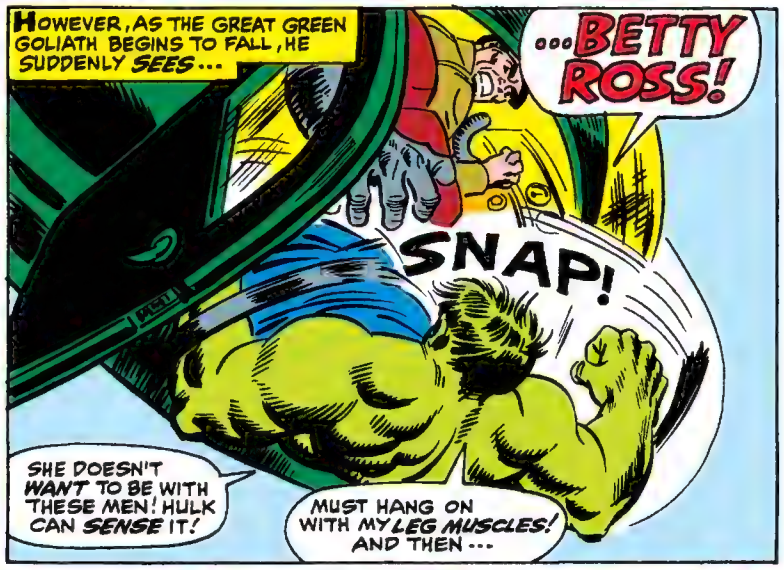
WE'RE BEING TOSSED ABOUT LIKE--UHNN!-- I CAN'T HOLD ON!
I'M... FALLING! YIIIIEEEEEEE!
ONE OF THEM'S FALLEN OUT... AND BANNER'S ABOUT TO FALL!


OH NO YA DON'T, BRUCE BABY! I BEEN THROUGH TOO MUCH TROUBLE TO LET YOU GET AWAY NOW!
YOU JUST HANG ON REAL TIGHT... AND I'LL PULL YA B--! WHAT IN BLAZES?? HE'S TREMBLIN' ALL OVER!
IT--IT'S STARTING AGAIN! THE CLOSE CALL SPEEDED MY PULSE...
...AND NOW I'M DOOMED TO ONCE AGAIN BECOME--

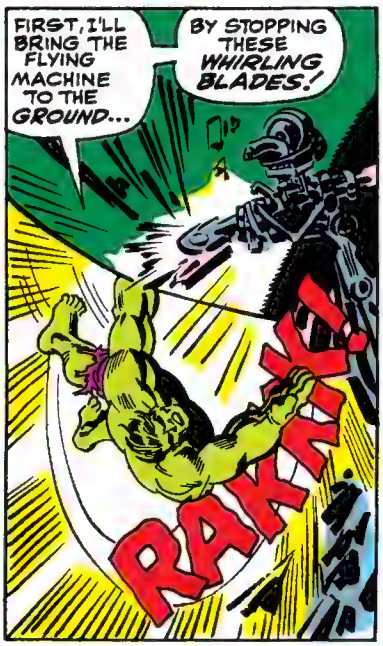
...THE HULK!

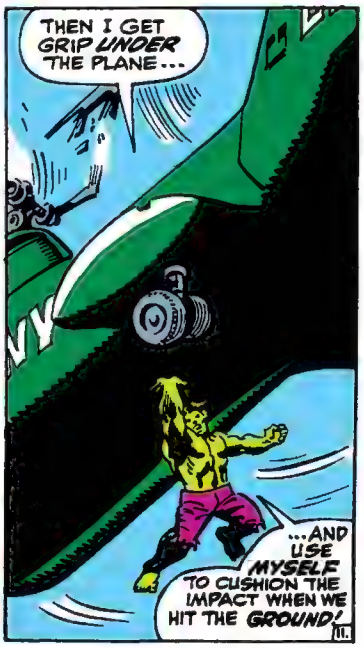

WHAT IS THIS...?
ONE MINUTE I'M HANGIN' ON TO A SKINNY SCIENTIST... AND THE NEXT MINUTE--!
BRUCE...NO! YOU MUSTN'T... YOU CAN'T...
HE'S TURNED INTO THE HULK! DROP HIM, YOU FOOL-- BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

YOU CAN'T HOLD THE HULK CAPTIVE!
YOU CONVINCED ME, BUDDY! I AIN'T EVEN GONNA TRY!
HAPPY LANDIN'S!

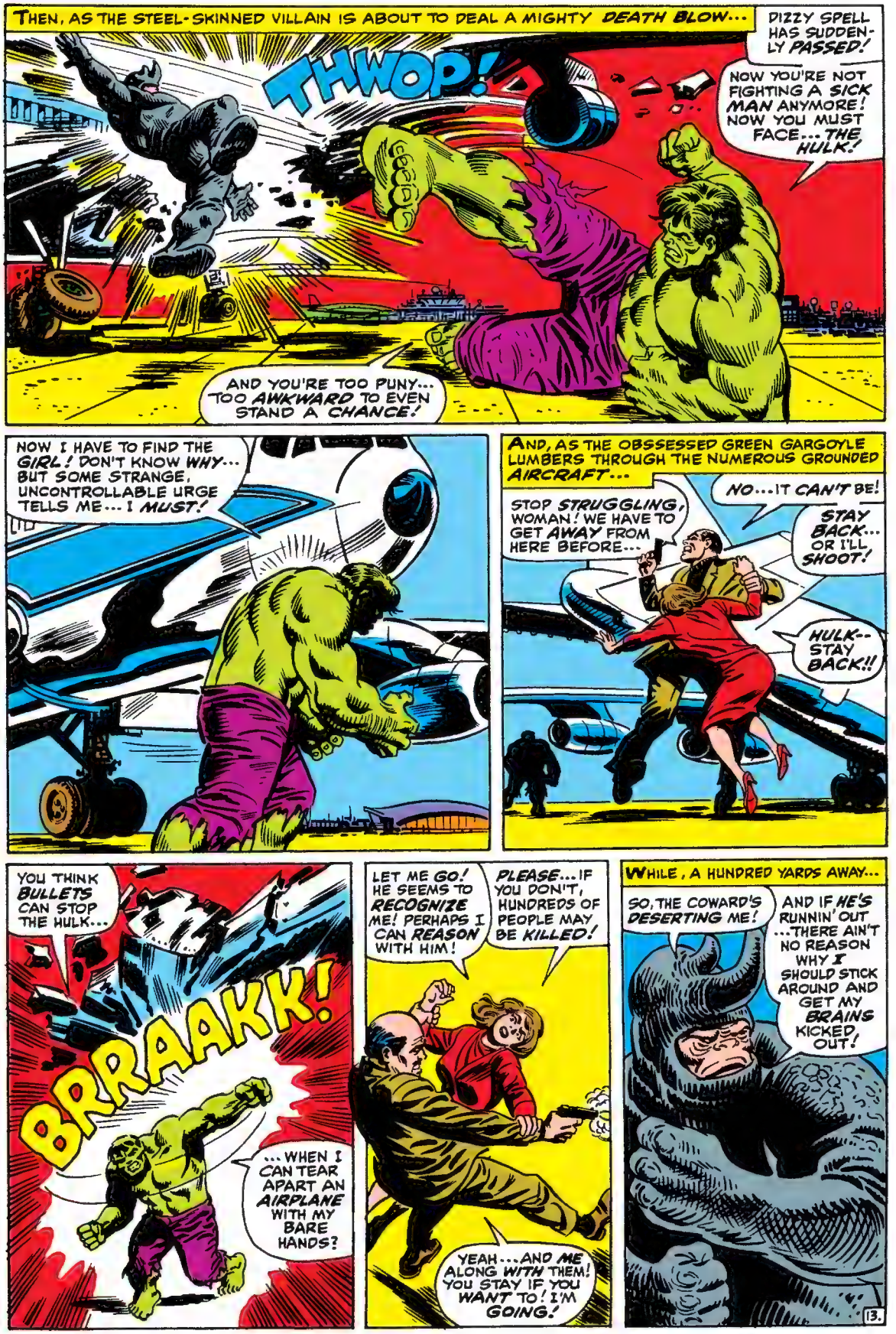

HOWEVER, AS THE GREAT GREEN GOLIATH BEGINS TO FALL, HE SUDDENLY SEES...
...BETTY ROSS!
SNAP!
SHE DOESN'T WANT TO BE WITH THESE MEN! HULK CAN SENSE IT!
MUST HANG ON WITH MY LEG MUSCLES! AND THEN...

HAH! HULK DID PERFECT FLIP AND GRABBED HOLD WITH HIS HAND!
NOW I CAN RESCUE THE GIRL!

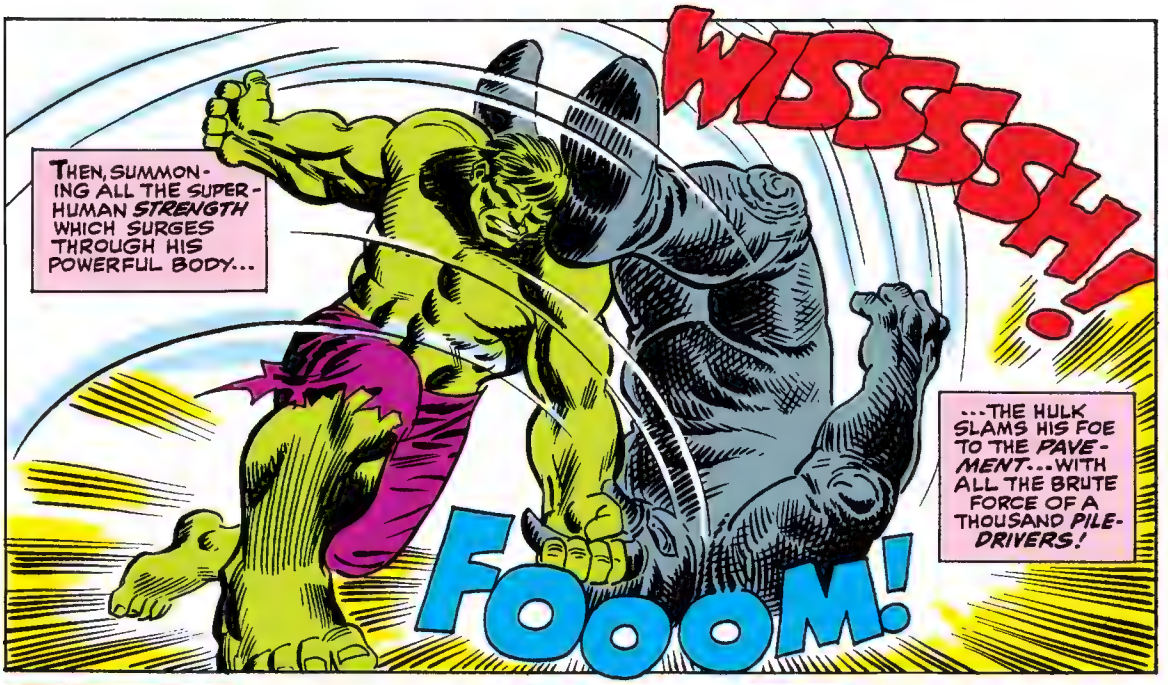

FIRST, I'LL BRING THE FLYING MACHINE TO THE GROUND...
BY STOPPING THESE WHIRLING BLADES!
RAKK!

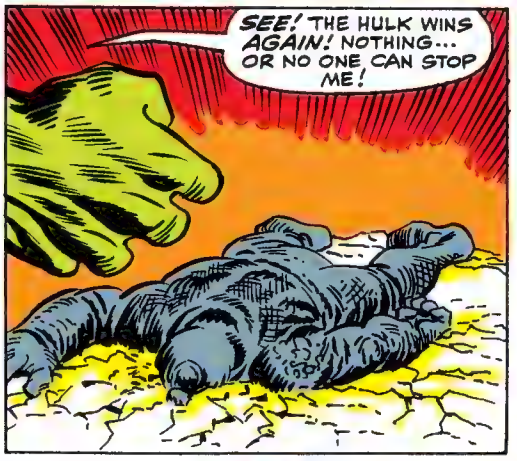

THEN I GET GRIP UNDER THE PLANE...
...AND USE MYSELF TO CUSHION THE IMPACT WHEN WE HIT THE GROUND!

HOWEVER, AS THE CRIPPLED AIRCRAFT HURTLES TOWARD THE ONRUSHING EARTH...
SUDDENLY... GETTING DIZZY!
EVERYTHING... SPINNING... FASTER AND... FASTER!
HAVE TO STAY... AWAKE! CAN'T LET PLANE... CRASH!
THEN, AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT...
GOING TO HIT HARD... NOW!
GETTING WEAKER EVERY SECOND... BUT SHIP IS SAFE NOW!
WHOOMP!
AND THAT'S MORE THAN WE CAN SAY FOR A CERTAIN JOLLY GREEN GOLEM JUST ABOUT NOW, AS...
SO DIZZY... AND CONFUSED! CAN'T SEEM TO... THINK CLEARLY!
HEY... HE ACTS LIKE THERE'S SOMETHIN' WRONG WITH 'IM! AND THAT'S MY CUE TO CHARGE!
SUDDENLY...
HERE'S TO YER HEALTH, UGLY... AND HOPIN' I CAN MAKE IT A LOT WORSE!
AARRGGGHHHH!
THAT'S IT, RHINO! BATTER HIM SENSELESS... WHILE I TAKE CARE OF HIS LADY FRIEND!
NO... YOU CAN'T! I DON'T CARE ABOUT MYSELF... BUT BRUCE... THE HULK... MUSTN'T BE HARMED!
SHUT UP AND MOVE!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IT, BOSS! HE'S SO DOPEY FROM THAT CHLOROFORM WE GAVE HIM...
...HE'S NO MORE OF A CHALLENGE TO ME THAN A NORMAL MAN!
I'LL FINISH 'IM AND BRING HIM BACK TO HEADQUARTERS IN NO TIME!
ALERT! ALERT! ALL AIRCRAFT BOUND FOR JFK WILL PROCEED TO OTHER AIRPORTS!
JFK IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE! A STATE OF EMERGENCY EXISTS HERE!
ALL FAA OFFICIALS TAKE COVER! FOG AND SNOWSTORMS WE CAN HANDLE... BUT THE HULK AND THE RHINO ARE ANOTHER MATTER!
12


THEN, AS THE STEEL-SKINNED VILLAIN IS ABOUT TO DEAL A MIGHTY DEATH BLOW...
THWOP!
AND YOU'RE TOO PUNY... TOO AWKWARD TO EVEN STAND A CHANCE!
DIZZY SPELL HAS SUDDENLY PASSED!
NOW YOU'RE NOT FIGHTING A SICK MAN ANYMORE! NOW YOU MUST FACE... THE HULK!
NOW I HAVE TO FIND THE GIRL! DON'T KNOW WHY... BUT SOME STRANGE, UNCONTROLLABLE URGE TELLS ME... I MUST!
AND, AS THE OBSSESSED GREEN GARGOYLE LUMBERS THROUGH THE NUMEROUS GROUNDED AIRCRAFT...
STOP STRUGGLING, WOMAN! WE HAVE TO GET AWAY FROM HERE BEFORE...
NO... IT CAN'T BE!
STAY BACK... OR I'LL SHOOT!
HULK-- STAY BACK!!
YOU THINK BULLETS CAN STOP THE HULK...
BRRAAKK!
...WHEN I CAN TEAR APART AN AIRPLANE WITH MY BARE HANDS?
LET ME GO! HE SEEMS TO RECOGNIZE ME! PERHAPS I CAN REASON WITH HIM!
PLEASE... IF YOU DON'T, HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE MAY BE KILLED!
YEAH... AND ME ALONG WITH THEM! YOU STAY IF YOU WANT TO! I'M GOING!
WHILE, A HUNDRED YARDS AWAY...
SO, THE COWARD'S DESERTING ME!
AND IF HE'S RUNNIN' OUT ...THERE AIN'T NO REASON WHY I SHOULD STICK AROUND AND GET MY BRAINS KICKED OUT!
13.

AND, AS THE RHINO TURNS TO FLEE...
IF... THERE'S ANY PART OF BRUCE WITHIN YOU, YOU'LL LEAVE HERE... AND NOT HARM ANYONE!
IF PEOPLE ARE HURT... THEY'LL HUNT YOU DOWN AND KILL YOU!
YOU'RE... CONCERNED FOR HULK? WHY?
BUT, IF YOU CARE... I MUST PROTECT YOU!
DON'T BE AFRAID! HULK WON'T HURT YOU!
I'LL PUT YOU HIGH ON TOWER... WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE!
NOW... YOU WAIT HERE! HULK WILL COME BACK FOR YOU!
Y-YES! I... WILL!
I'M TERRIFIED OF HIM... AND YET, I FEEL CERTAIN I'VE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM HIM!
HULK HAS TO GO FIGHT! MUST PROVE TO THE WORLD THAT NO ONE IS STRONGER THAN THE HULK!
THEN, AFTER THE HULK HAS BOUNDED FAR ACROSS THE SPRAWLING AIRPORT IN BUT TWO MIGHTY THOOMS...
YOU! WHY DO YOU RUN FROM HULK? ARE YOU AFRAID?
HUH? THE RHINO... SCARED?
I JUST DIDN'T SEE THE PERCENTAGE IN SLUGGIN' IT OUT WITH YA!
BUT, SINCE YA PUT IT AS A MATTER 'A PRIDE...
WOK!
IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN A BLOW LIKE A FLYSWATTER TO STOP THE HULK!
BUT ONE BLOW FROM HULK SHOULD BE PLENTY TO FINISH YOU!
14


THEN, SUMMONING ALL THE SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH WHICH SURGES THROUGH HIS POWERFUL BODY...
WISSSSH!
...THE HULK SLAMS HIS FOE TO THE PAVEMENT...WITH ALL THE BRUTE FORCE OF A THOUSAND PILE-DRIVERS!
FOOOM!

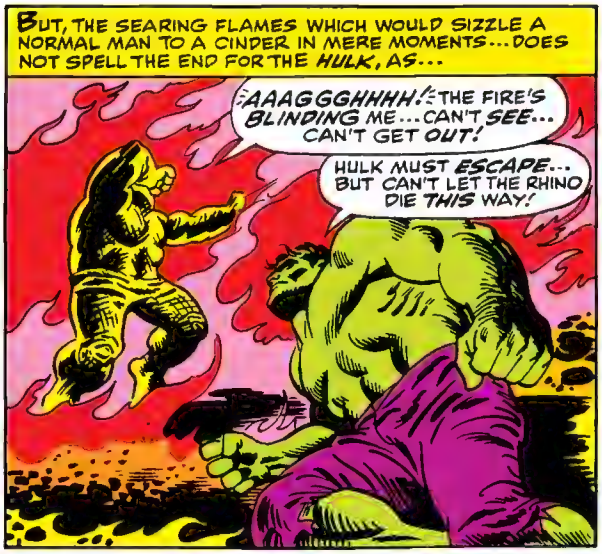

SEE! THE HULK WINS AGAIN! NOTHING... OR NO ONE CAN STOP ME!

GUESS AGAIN, CUDDLES! YOU AIN'T TANGLIN' WITH NO NUTHIN' OR NOBODY! YOU'RE UP AGAINST... THE RHINO!

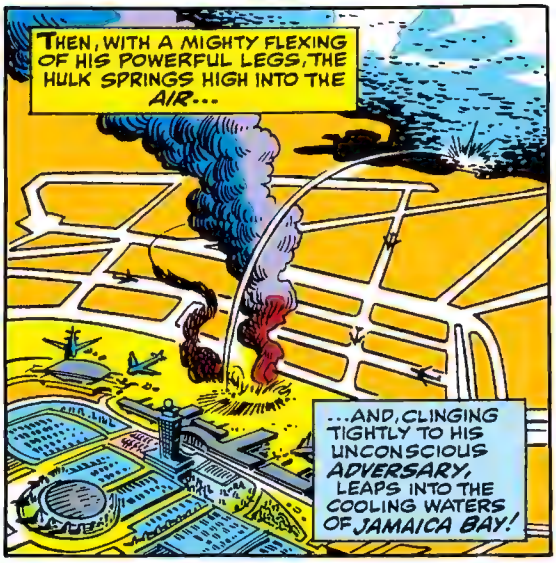
WHAT'S THAT MEAN TO ME? IT TAKES MORE THAN A NAME AND A COSTUME TO MAKE YOU MY EQUAL!
BUT HULK WILL BE GLAD TO TEACH YOU THE HARD WAY...
...LIKE THIS!

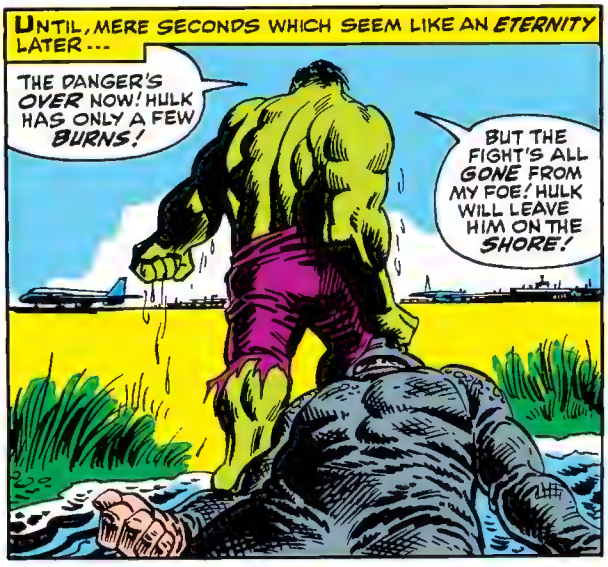
WHRAM!

BUT, ONCE AGAIN THE RAMPAGING RHINO RECOVERS, AND···
IF THAT'S THE BEST YOU CAN DISH OUT... YOU BETTER GET READY TO DO SOME TAKIN'!
LATCH ONTA THIS··· IF YER ABLE!
HULK IS MORE THAN ABLE! BUT LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN SAY THE SAME FOR YOURSELF!
I WON'T HAVE TO BE! YOU'RE TOO SLOW···TOO AWKWARD TO HURL IT BACK AT ME BEFORE I CAN···
THAT'S IT··· COME CLOSER··· CLOSER!
NOW!
SMASH!
HOWEVER, THINKING ONLY OF A WAY TO DEFEAT HIS DETERMINED FOE, THE HULK FAILS TO NOTICE THAT THE TRUCK IS FILLED WITH HIGHLY EXPLOSIVE JET FUEL, UNTIL···
WHOOSH!
--AND BOTH THE GARGANTUAN FIGURES ARE INSTANTANEOUSLY CONSUMED BY A BLAZING INFERNO OF LIQUID DEATH--!


BUT, THE SEARING FLAMES WHICH WOULD SIZZLE A NORMAL MAN TO A CINDER IN MERE MOMENTS... DOES NOT SPELL THE END FOR THE HULK, AS...
AAAGGGHHHH! THE FIRE'S BLINDING ME... CAN'T SEE... CAN'T GET OUT!
HULK MUST ESCAPE... BUT CAN'T LET THE RHINO DIE THIS WAY!

HULK WILL CARRY YOU TO SAFETY!
THEN, WE'LL CONTINUE OUR FIGHT--IF YOU CAN!


THEN, WITH A MIGHTY FLEXING OF HIS POWERFUL LEGS, THE HULK SPRINGS HIGH INTO THE AIR...
...AND, CLINGING TIGHTLY TO HIS UNCONSCIOUS ADVERSARY, LEAPS INTO THE COOLING WATERS OF JAMAICA BAY!


UNTIL, MERE SECONDS WHICH SEEM LIKE AN ETERNITY LATER...
THE DANGER'S OVER NOW! HULK HAS ONLY A FEW BURNS!
BUT THE FIGHT'S ALL GONE FROM MY FOE! HULK WILL LEAVE HIM ON THE SHORE!

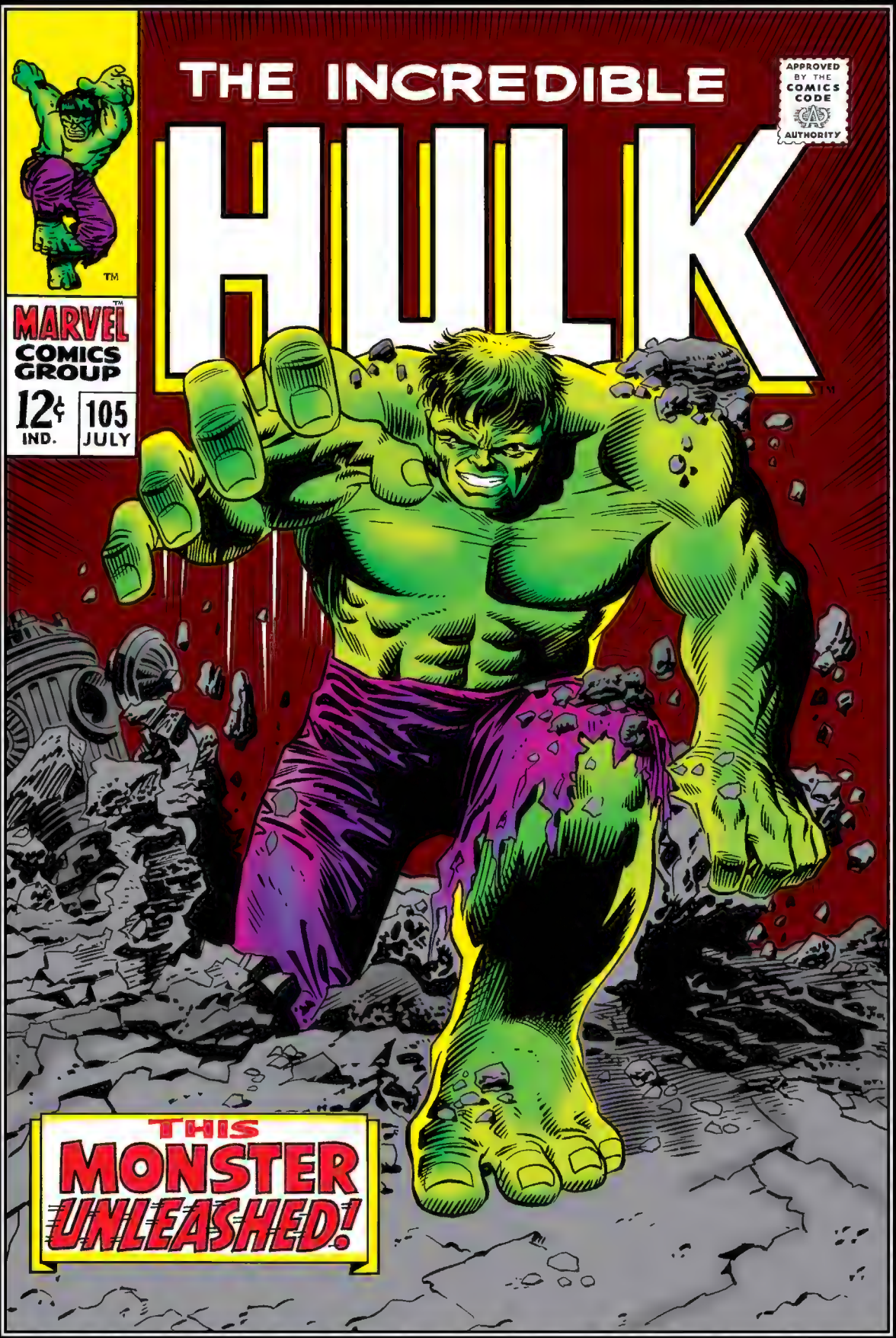
BUT, NO SOONER HAS THE GREAT GREEN GOLIATH TURNED AWAY, THAN...
RUNNIN' FROM... A FIGHT, HUH? YOU STILL SCARED... I'LL BEAT YOU?
WELL... MAYBE I UNDERSTAND! 'CAUSE I'M HUMAN...
...AND NOT AN ANIMAL... LIKE YOU!

HULK SAVED YOUR LIFE... AND YOU STILL CALL HIM NAMES! YOU STILL CHALLENGE HULK?
THEN, BY THE HULK'S HAND YOU'LL DIE!

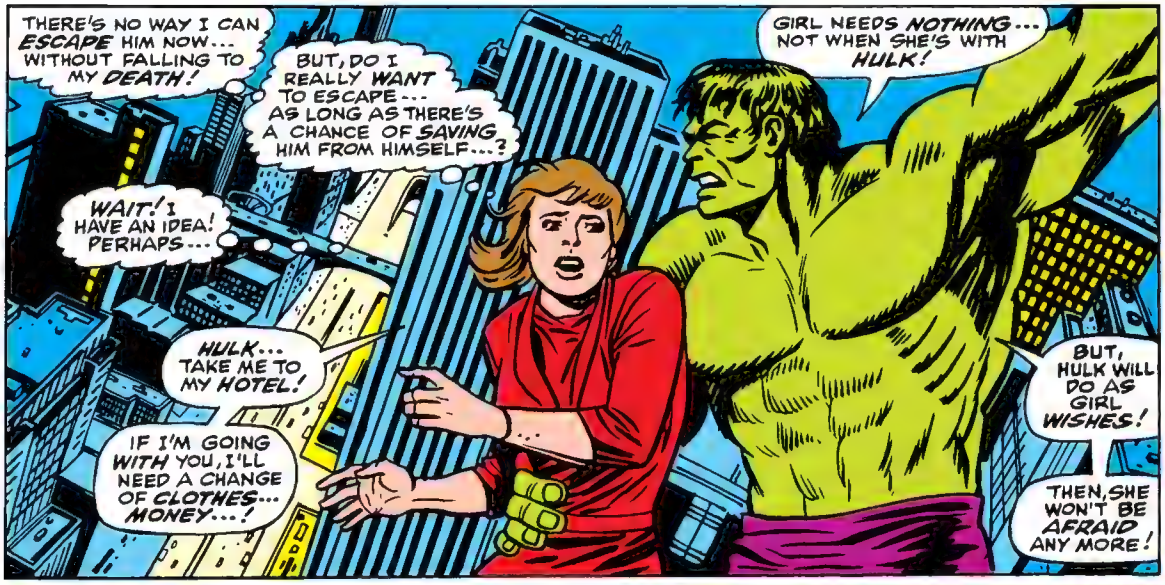
YER ALL MOUTH, GREENIE! YOU TALK A GOOD FIGHT... BUT WHEN THE CHIPS'RE DOWN, YOU AIN'T NUTHIN'!
NO! YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE HULK MAD--BUT IT'S NO USE! YOU'RE HURT TOO BAD! HULK DOES NOT FIGHT A MAN WHO CAN'T EVEN STAND!
BURNED... BAD, BUT GOTTA GET HIM TO... FIGHT!
HE'S WALKIN' OFF! CAN'T LET HIM DO IT!
I'M HURT TOO BAD TO LIVE ANYWAY! THE LEAST I CAN DO IS... DIE A WINNER!
JUST GOT ENOUGH STRENGTH FOR ONE LAST... CHARGE!
GOTTA MAKE THIS ONE COUNT... OR I'LL NEVER GET ANOTHER... CHANCE!
:UUUNNNHHHH!:
I DID IT! NOW IF I CAN JUST HIT 'IM... ONCE MORE ... HE'LL BE FINISHED!
BUT, BEFORE THE HALF-CRAZED RHINO CAN LAND HIS BLOW...
YOU GOT BY WITH HITTING THE HULK FROM BEHIND BEFORE.. BUT IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN!
TOO LATE! I'VE BLOWN... MY LAST ROUND!
SAY IT BEFORE YOU DIE! TELL ME THE WORDS YOU NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D SAY...
...NO ONE CAN DEFEAT THE HULK!
NEVER... NOT IN THIS LIFE... OR IN WHATEVER LIFE... I'M GOIN' TO!
18.

YER JUST LUCKY ...THAT TRUCK BLEW UP! OTHERWISE...I'D HAVE WHIPPED YOU... EASY!
YOU LIE! HULK CAN'T BE BEAT BY ANY MAN... OR ANYTHING! SAY IT!
SAY IT OR I'LL...
...IT'S NO USE!
THE RHINO IS... DEAD!
BUT I KNOW I WOULD HAVE BEATEN HIM!
AND THE REST OF THE WORLD WILL KNOW IT, TOO!
HOWEVER, AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE VERY SPOT WHERE THE HULK LEFT BETTY ROSS...
SHE'S ONLY FAINTED! SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
HURRY UP AND GET HER DOWN FROM HERE BEFORE.. LOOK! OVER THERE--!
HERE COMES... THE HULK!
THEN, WITHIN SECONDS, AS THE RESCUE WORKERS REACH STREET LEVEL...
WHERE'S THE GIRL? WHY DIDN'T SHE WAIT FOR HULK? I TOLD HER I'D...
THERE SHE IS ...WITH GENERAL WHO'S ALWAYS HUNTING ME!
GIVE GIRL BACK... OR HULK WILL KILL YOU ALL! SEND HER TO ME NOW!
OVER MY BODY, YOU MURDERER! YOU'LL NEVER TOUCH HER AGAIN!
I SWEAR YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO!
THREATS DON'T SCARE HULK! I'LL GET THE GIRL ONE WAY OR THE OTHER!
UNLESS I HEAR HER SAY THAT... SHE HATES HULK!

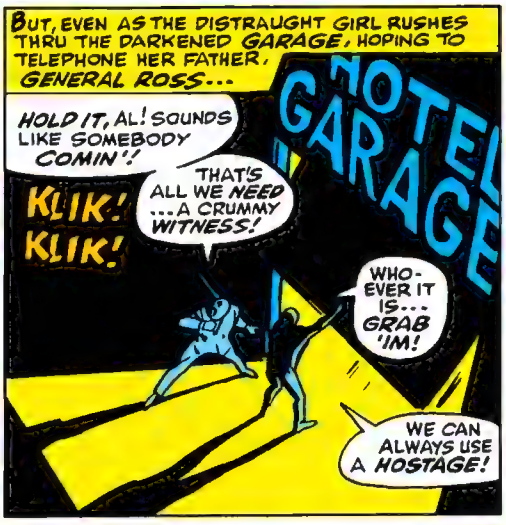
NNOOOOOO! I DON'T HATE YOU--- BUT, YOU'RE DRIVING ME---INSANE!
PLEASE GO AWAY! I CAN'T STAND THIS HATRED.. THIS MADNESS, ANY LONGER!
WHY ARE YOU SO NERVOUS? I KNOW YOU DON'T FEAR ME!
IT'S THEM! THEY'VE MADE YOU THIS WAY... BUT THE HULK WILL SAVE YOU!
THEN, LEAPING ALMOST FASTER THAN THE EYE CAN SEE, THE HULK SWOOPS DOWN ON THE STUNNED CROWD, AND---
DON'T! TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME! THIS ISN'T WHAT I WANT!
GIRL IS CONFUSED! DOESN'T KNOW WHAT SHE WANTS! BUT SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO WORRY...
BRUCE!.. DON'T BE A FOOL!
HULK WILL TAKE YOU AWAY FROM HATEFUL MEN...WHERE THEY'LL NEVER FIND US!
AND ANY MAN WHO TRIES TO FOLLOW HULK WILL BE CRUSHED! JUST STAY BACK--- AND NEVER SEARCH FOR HULK AGAIN!
PLEASE... CAN'T YOU TRY TO UNDERSTAND! WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS WRONG! IT CAN ONLY LEAD TO--
I CAN'T GET THROUGH TO HIS CLOUDED BRAIN! HE THINKS HE'S HELPING ME! BUT--WHERE IS HE TAKING ME--?
GENERAL! HE'S GETTING AWAY...WITH BETTY! WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING!
THERE'S NOTHING THAT CAN BE DONE... NOT AS LONG AS BETTY'S NEAR HIM!
THE BOY--IS RIGHT!
WE'RE TOTALLY AT THE MERCY OF...THE HULK!
NEXT
YOU'LL CALL IT THE MOST MAGNIFICENT MARVEL MIND-EXPLOSION YET... BUT WE JUST CALL IT.. "THE COMING OF THE MISSING LINK!"
20.


THE INCREDIBLE
HULK
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
105 JULY
THIS MONSTER UNLEASHED!

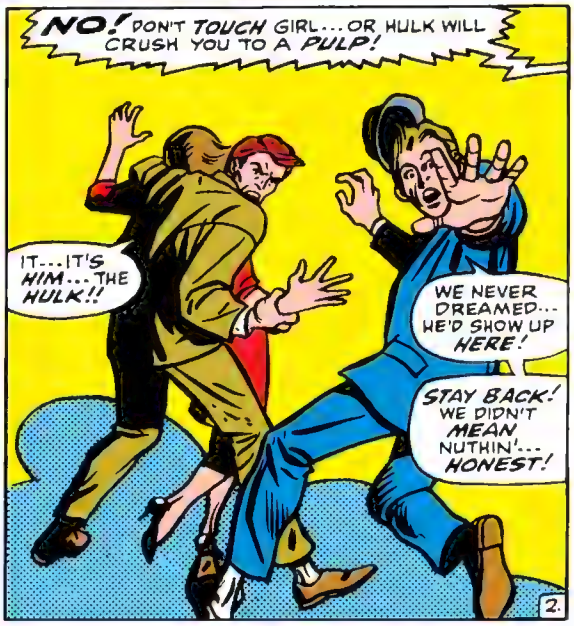
THE INCREDIBLE HULK!™
"THIS MONSTER UNLEASHED!"
OUR SENSES-SHATTERING SYNOPSIS:
ALL FAITHFUL ONES WILL RECALL, IN VIVID RETROSPECT, THE APPARENT DEMISE OF ONE RHINO, AT THE HANDS OF THE RAMPAGING HULK IN OUR LAST INDESCRIBABLE ISH...
NOW, LET'S PICK UP ON OUR GREGARIOUS GARGANTUAN, AS HE LEAPS ABOVE THE CITY SKYLINE, WITH THE FRIGHTENED BETTY ROSS A RELUCTANT CO-TRAVELER---
WHERE IS HE TAKING ME? WHERE ARE WE GOING?
HE THINKS HE'S SAVING ME FROM MY FATHER AND MAJOR TALBOT...WHEN THEY WERE TRYING TO PROTECT ME FROM HIM!
IF ONLY I COULD REACH THE MIND BENEATH THE HULK'S SAVAGE BRAIN--- THE MIND OF THE MAN I LOVE---!
PUNY HUMANS EVERYWHERE... AFTER THE HULK!
THEY CAN'T HURT ME... BUT MIGHT HARM THE GIRL!
MUST GET HER TO SAFE PLACE---WHERE NO ONE CAN FIND US!
AND, WITH THAT ERUDITE INTRO UNDER OUR BELTS, LET'S GET ON WITH OUR PULSE-POUNDING PLOT--!
HOOO-BOY! IT TOOK ALL THESE SEDULOUS STALWARTS TO CREATE THIS SPELL-BINDING SENSATION!
EDITING BY STAN LEE!
SCRIPT BY BILL EVERETT AND ROY THOMAS!
ART BY MARIE SEVERIN!
INKING BY GEORGE TUSKA!
LETTERING BY SAM ROSEN!
OH, YES...AND WE MUSTN'T FORGET THOSE INDISPENSIBLE SCORE CARDS BY HONEST IRV!


THERE'S NO WAY I CAN ESCAPE HIM NOW... WITHOUT FALLING TO MY DEATH!
BUT, DO I REALLY WANT TO ESCAPE --- AS LONG AS THERE'S A CHANCE OF SAVING HIM FROM HIMSELF...?
GIRL NEEDS NOTHING... NOT WHEN SHE'S WITH HULK!
WAIT! I HAVE AN IDEA! PERHAPS...
HULK... TAKE ME TO MY HOTEL!
IF I'M GOING WITH YOU, I'LL NEED A CHANGE OF CLOTHES... MONEY...!
BUT, HULK WILL DO AS GIRL WISHES!
THEN, SHE WON'T BE AFRAID ANY MORE!

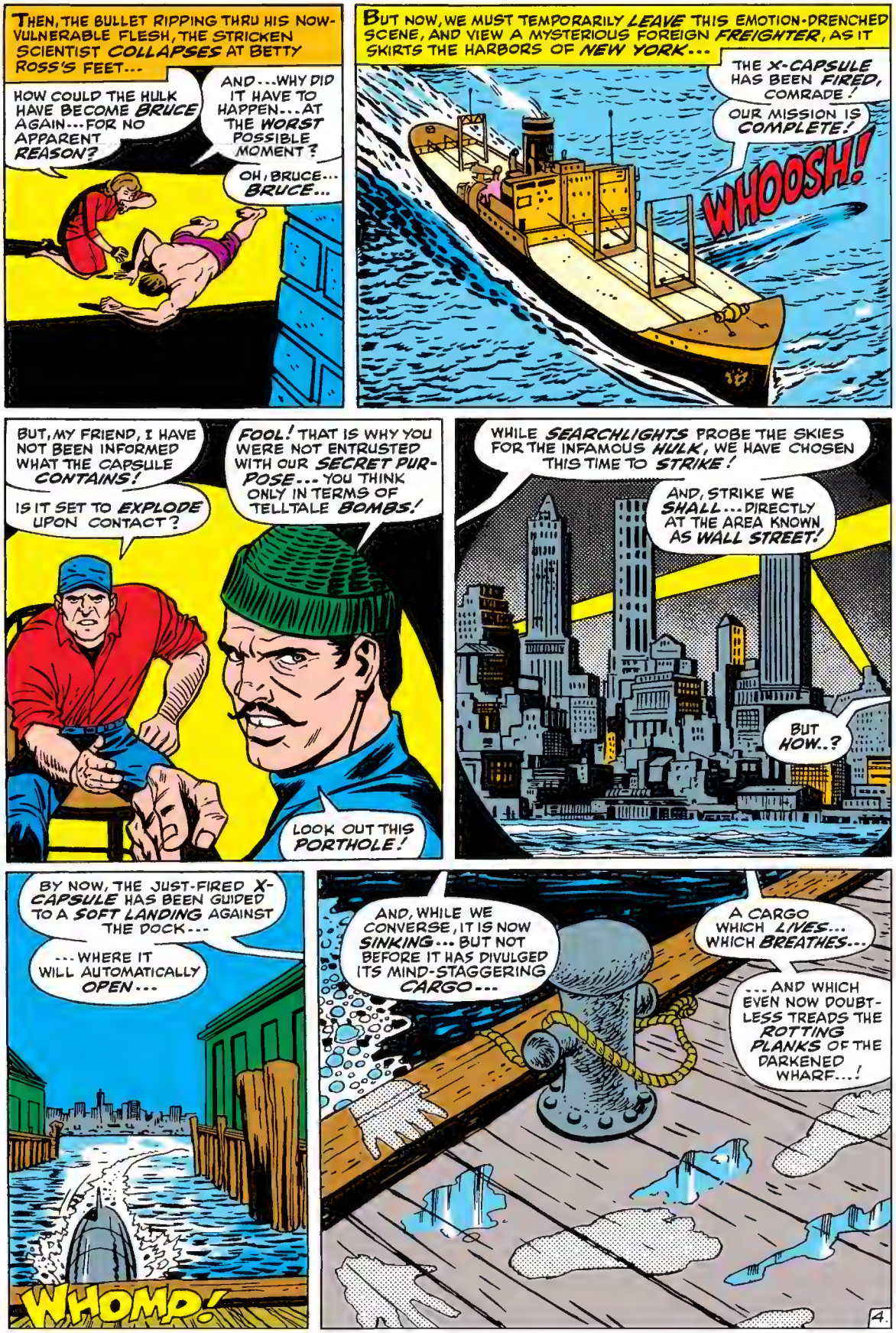
AND, SCANT MOMENTS LATER...
WE'RE HERE! BUT, HULK DOESN'T LIKE BEING IN CITY!
WE'LL ONLY BE HERE FOR A FEW MINUTES!
WAIT IN THIS ALLEY --- TILL I RETURN!
GARAGE ENTRANCE
AND, ABOVE ALL, DON'T DO ANYTHING --- OR HARM ANYONE!


BUT, EVEN AS THE DISTRAUGHT GIRL RUSHES THRU THE DARKENED GARAGE, HOPING TO TELEPHONE HER FATHER, GENERAL ROSS...
HOTEL GARAGE
HOLD IT, AL! SOUNDS LIKE SOMEBODY COMIN'!
KLIK! KLIK!
THAT'S ALL WE NEED ...A CRUMMY WITNESS!
WHO-EVER IT IS... GRAB 'IM!
WE CAN ALWAYS USE A HOSTAGE!

HEY, LOOK... IT'S A CHICK!
SORRY, BABY, BUT WE PLANNED THIS CAR-HEIST 'CAUSE THE HULK HAD EVERYBODY SCARED OFF THE STREETS...
AND, YOU AIN'T ABOUT TO SPOIL IT!
:MMMMFF...!:
MUFFLE 'ER! DON'T LET HER SCREAM!


NO! DON'T TOUCH GIRL... OR HULK WILL CRUSH YOU TO A PULP!
IT...IT'S HIM... THE HULK!!
WE NEVER DREAMED... HE'D SHOW UP HERE!
STAY BACK! WE DIDN'T MEAN NUTHIN'... HONEST!

QUICKLY, HER MIND ONLY TOO FAMILIAR WITH HER RESCUER'S STEAM-ROLLER POWER, BETTY ATTEMPTS TO STAY THE GREEN BEHEMOTH ---
BRUCE..HULK... FOR THE LOVE OF HEAVEN, STOP!
IF..IF YOU HARM THEM, THE ARMY WILL NEVER LET YOU ALONE!
HULK DOESN'T CARE! JUST KNOW THEY TRIED TO HURT GIRL!
FOR THAT... THEY MUST PAY!!
KEE-RAKK!
RUN FOR IT, AL! MOVE!
YA THINK I NEED A BLASTED BOOK OF INSTRUCTIONS?
STAND CLEAR, FEMALE...
...WHILE HULK SMASHES THOSE WHO FLEE HIM!
I CAN'T STAND ANY MORE!
I LOVE BRUCE BANNER... BUT NOT... THIS MONSTER..!
MONSTER? SHE CALLED THE HULK... A MONSTER!?
BUT... HULK JUST WANTS TO HELP HER..!
WAIT! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING...
HULK'S CHANGING... TURNING BACK TO BRUCE BANNER!
BUT... DON'T WANT TO BECOME HUMAN! DON'T WANT TO...!
I DON'T BLAME YA, CREEP... 'CAUSE EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT BANNER'S JUST ANOTHER EGGHEAD!
AN' THAT MEANS MY GUN AIN'T USELESS ANY MORE!
BRAK!
KNOCK IT OFF, ROCKY... AND BLOW!
=UNNHHH!=
I'M HIT... JUST AS I FINISHED CHANGING!
BUT... I CAN'T DIE! NOT NOW... NOT LIKE THIS... !!
3.


THEN, THE BULLET RIPPING THRU HIS NOW-VULNERABLE FLESH, THE STRICKEN SCIENTIST COLLAPSES AT BETTY ROSS'S FEET...
HOW COULD THE HULK HAVE BECOME BRUCE AGAIN...FOR NO APPARENT REASON?
AND...WHY DID IT HAVE TO HAPPEN...AT THE WORST POSSIBLE MOMENT?
OH, BRUCE... BRUCE...
BUT NOW, WE MUST TEMPORARILY LEAVE THIS EMOTION-DRENCHED SCENE, AND VIEW A MYSTERIOUS FOREIGN FREIGHTER, AS IT SKIRTS THE HARBORS OF NEW YORK...
THE X-CAPSULE HAS BEEN FIRED, COMRADE!
OUR MISSION IS COMPLETE!
WHOOSH!
BUT, MY FRIEND, I HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED WHAT THE CAPSULE CONTAINS!
IS IT SET TO EXPLODE UPON CONTACT?
FOOL! THAT IS WHY YOU WERE NOT ENTRUSTED WITH OUR SECRET PURPOSE... YOU THINK ONLY IN TERMS OF TELLTALE BOMBS!
LOOK OUT THIS PORTHOLE!
WHILE SEARCHLIGHTS PROBE THE SKIES FOR THE INFAMOUS HULK, WE HAVE CHOSEN THIS TIME TO STRIKE!
AND, STRIKE WE SHALL... DIRECTLY AT THE AREA KNOWN AS WALL STREET!
BUT HOW..?
BY NOW, THE JUST-FIRED X-CAPSULE HAS BEEN GUIDED TO A SOFT LANDING AGAINST THE DOCK...
...WHERE IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY OPEN...
WHOMP!
AND, WHILE WE CONVERSE, IT IS NOW SINKING... BUT NOT BEFORE IT HAS DIVULGED ITS MIND-STAGGERING CARGO...
A CARGO WHICH LIVES... WHICH BREATHES...
...AND WHICH EVEN NOW DOUBTLESS TREADS THE ROTTING PLANKS OF THE DARKENED WHARF...!
4.

"NOT LONG AGO, OUR ACCURSED *EASTERN ALLIES* CONDUCTED A TOP-SECRET *ATOMIC TEST*... THE FORCE OF WHICH WAS DIRECTED MOSTLY *UNDERGROUND*..."

"BUT, DUE TO FAULTY CALCULATIONS, THE EXPLOSION CAUSED A SEVERE *INTERNAL UPHEAVAL*...AS MOLTEN LAVA SCATTERED *RADIOACTIVE ORE* IN ALL DIRECTIONS..."

KA-VOOOM!

"ONLY A FEW DAYS LATER, A WANDERING *NOMAD* CAME UPON A HALF-HUMAN, HALF-BESTIAL *FORM*... CRAWLING DAZEDLY OUT OF A *FISSURE* ON THE NORTHERN EDGE OF THE TEST AREA..."

"THE UNFORTUNATE NOMAD *DIED* A FEW DAYS LATER... OF *RADIATION EXPOSURE*..."

"MEANWHILE, A TEAM OF *MILITARY SCIENTISTS* WAS SENT OUT TO CAPTURE THE BRUTE... WHICH APPARENTLY HAD SURVIVED IN *SUSPENDED ANIMATION* FOR COUNTLESS AGES, TO BE REVIVED BY THE *BLAST*..."

THERE HE IS!

IT'S *UNBELIEVABLE!* EVOLUTION'S *MISSING LINK*... *ALIVE!*

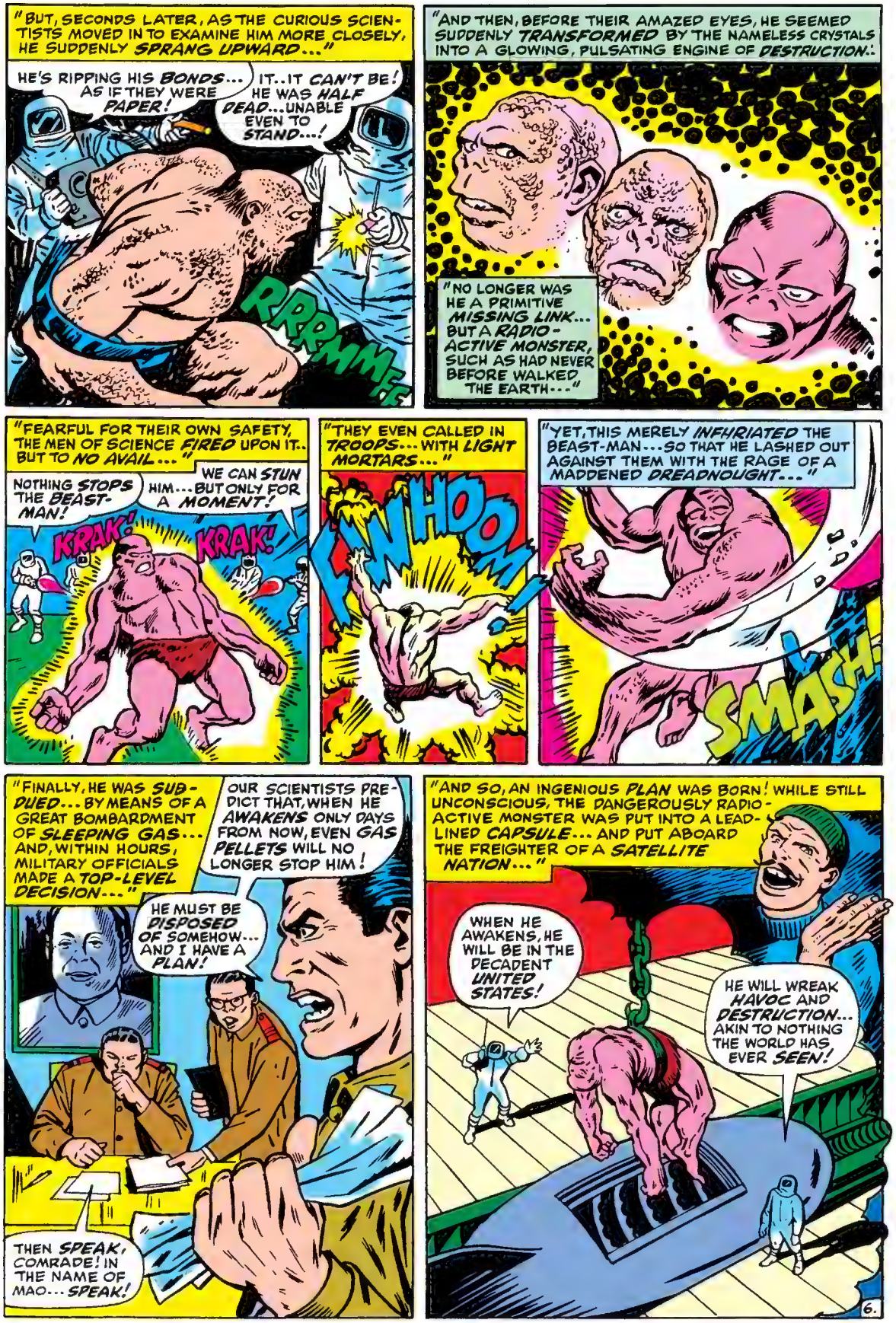
AND, WE MUST *KEEP* HIM THAT WAY! FIRE YOUR *GAS PELLETS!*

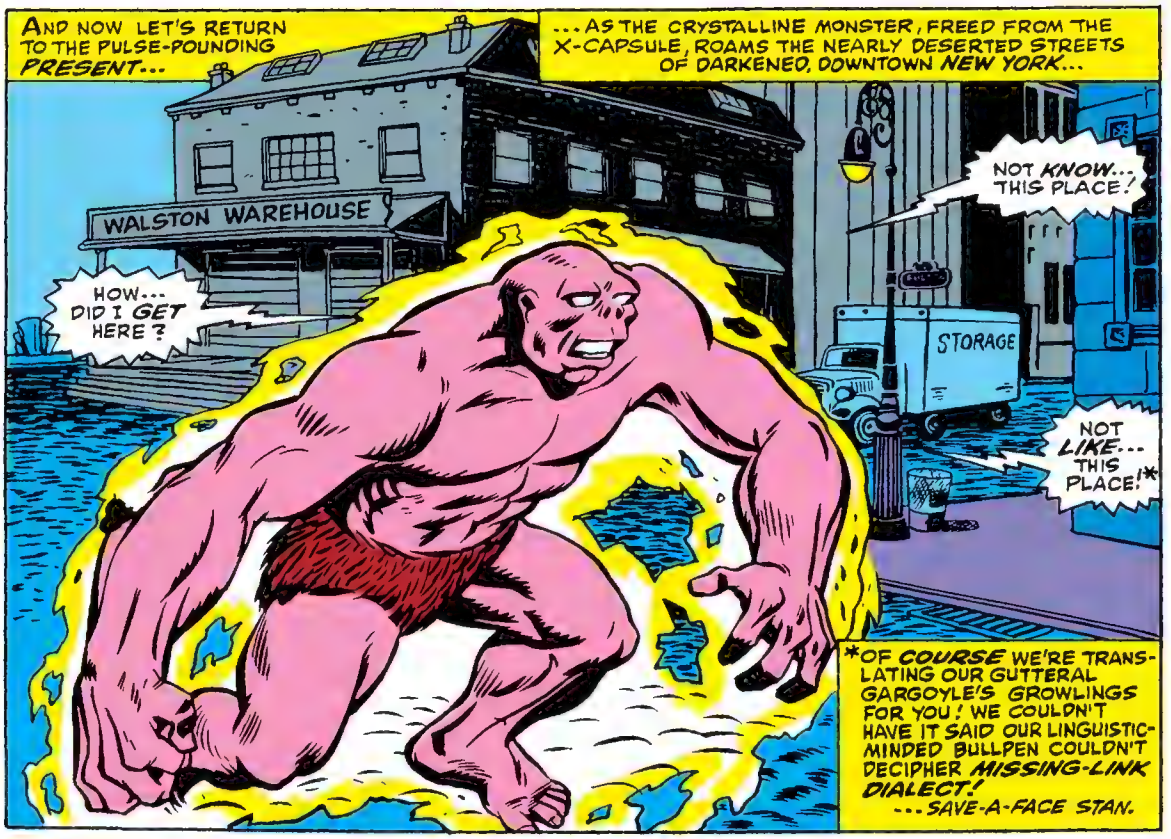
RRRRH

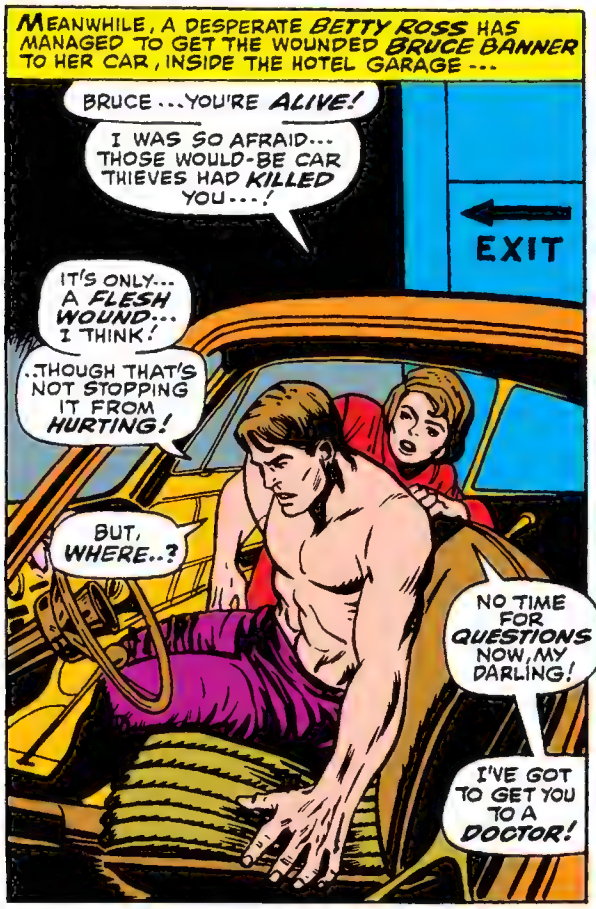
"SOON, SUBJECTED TO A SERIES OF TESTS, THE SEMI-HUMAN CREATURE BEGAN TO *CHANGE* IN APPEARANCE...TO THE *AMAZEMENT* OF THE SCIENTISTS..."

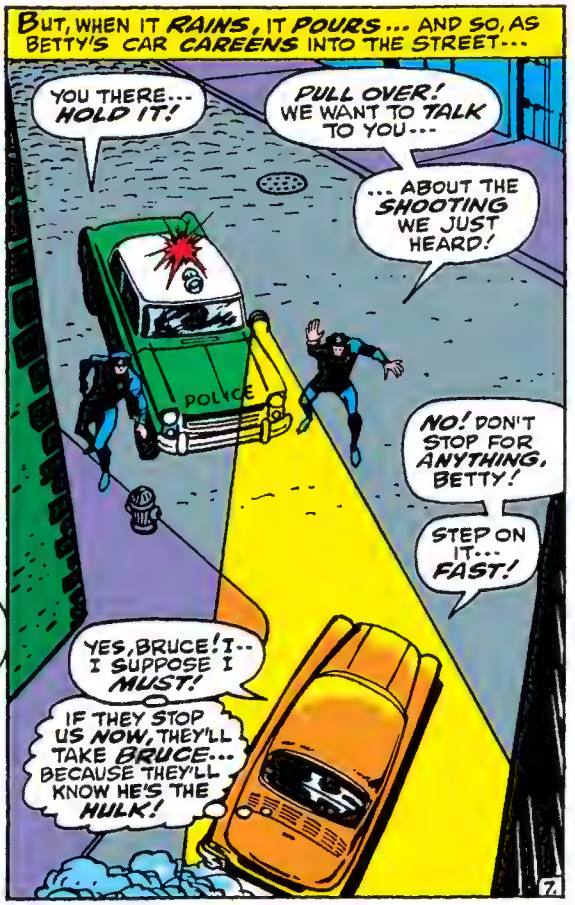
LOOK! THE APELIKE *HAIR* WHICH COVERED HIS BODY...IT'S *FALLING OUT!*

AND...WHAT ARE THOSE WEIRD *CRYSTALS* APPEARING ON HIM?


"BUT, SECONDS LATER, AS THE CURIOUS SCIENTISTS MOVED IN TO EXAMINE HIM MORE CLOSELY, HE SUDDENLY SPRANG UPWARD..."
HE'S RIPPING HIS BONDS... AS IF THEY WERE PAPER!
IT..IT CAN'T BE! HE WAS HALF DEAD...UNABLE EVEN TO STAND...!
RRRMMF
"AND THEN, BEFORE THEIR AMAZED EYES, HE SEEMED SUDDENLY TRANSFORMED BY THE NAMELESS CRYSTALS INTO A GLOWING, PULSATING ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION:
"NO LONGER WAS HE A PRIMITIVE MISSING LINK... BUT A RADIO-ACTIVE MONSTER, SUCH AS HAD NEVER BEFORE WALKED THE EARTH..."
"FEARFUL FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY, THE MEN OF SCIENCE FIRED UPON IT.. BUT TO NO AVAIL..."
NOTHING STOPS THE BEAST-MAN!
WE CAN STUN HIM... BUT ONLY FOR A MOMENT!
KRAK!
KRAK!
"THEY EVEN CALLED IN TROOPS... WITH LIGHT MORTARS..."
FWHOOM
"YET, THIS MERELY INFURIATED THE BEAST-MAN... SO THAT HE LASHED OUT AGAINST THEM WITH THE RAGE OF A MADDENED DREADNOUGHT..."
SMASH
"FINALLY, HE WAS SUBDUED... BY MEANS OF A GREAT BOMBARDMENT OF SLEEPING GAS... AND, WITHIN HOURS, MILITARY OFFICIALS MADE A TOP-LEVEL DECISION..."
OUR SCIENTISTS PREDICT THAT, WHEN HE AWAKENS ONLY DAYS FROM NOW, EVEN GAS PELLETS WILL NO LONGER STOP HIM!
HE MUST BE DISPOSED OF SOMEHOW... AND I HAVE A PLAN!
THEN SPEAK, COMRADE! IN THE NAME OF MAO... SPEAK!
"AND SO, AN INGENIOUS PLAN WAS BORN! WHILE STILL UNCONSCIOUS, THE DANGEROUSLY RADIO-ACTIVE MONSTER WAS PUT INTO A LEAD-LINED CAPSULE... AND PUT ABOARD THE FREIGHTER OF A SATELLITE NATION..."
WHEN HE AWAKENS, HE WILL BE IN THE DECADENT UNITED STATES!
HE WILL WREAK HAVOC AND DESTRUCTION... AKIN TO NOTHING THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN!
6.

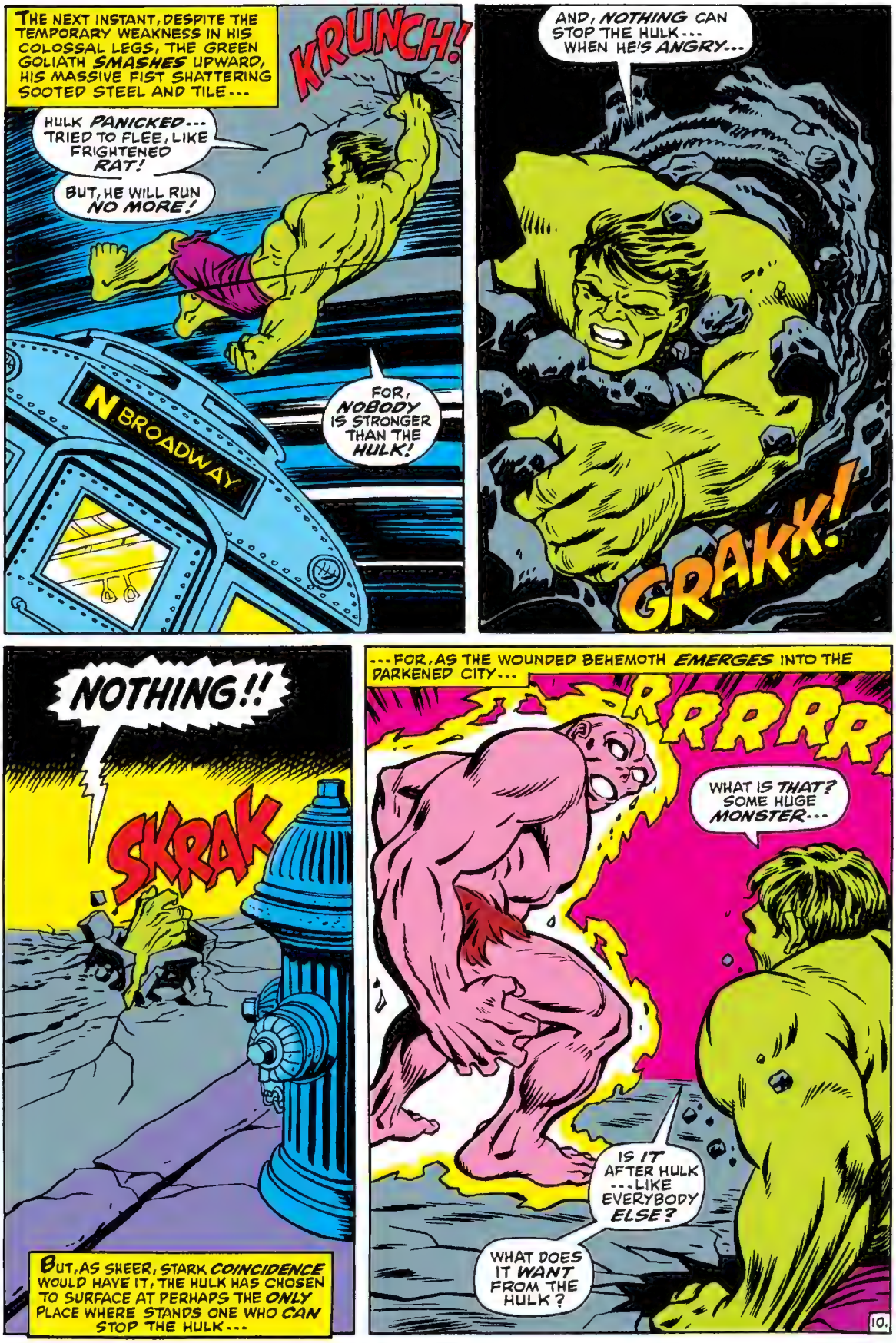

AND NOW LET'S RETURN TO THE PULSE-POUNDING PRESENT...
...AS THE CRYSTALLINE MONSTER, FREED FROM THE X-CAPSULE, ROAMS THE NEARLY DESERTED STREETS OF DARKENED, DOWNTOWN NEW YORK...
WALSTON WAREHOUSE
HOW... DID I GET HERE?
NOT KNOW... THIS PLACE!
STORAGE
NOT LIKE... THIS PLACE!*
*OF COURSE WE'RE TRANSLATING OUR GUTTERAL GARGOYLE'S GROWLINGS FOR YOU! WE COULDN'T HAVE IT SAID OUR LINGUISTIC-MINDED BULLPEN COULDN'T DECIPHER MISSING-LINK DIALECT! ---SAVE-A-FACE STAN.

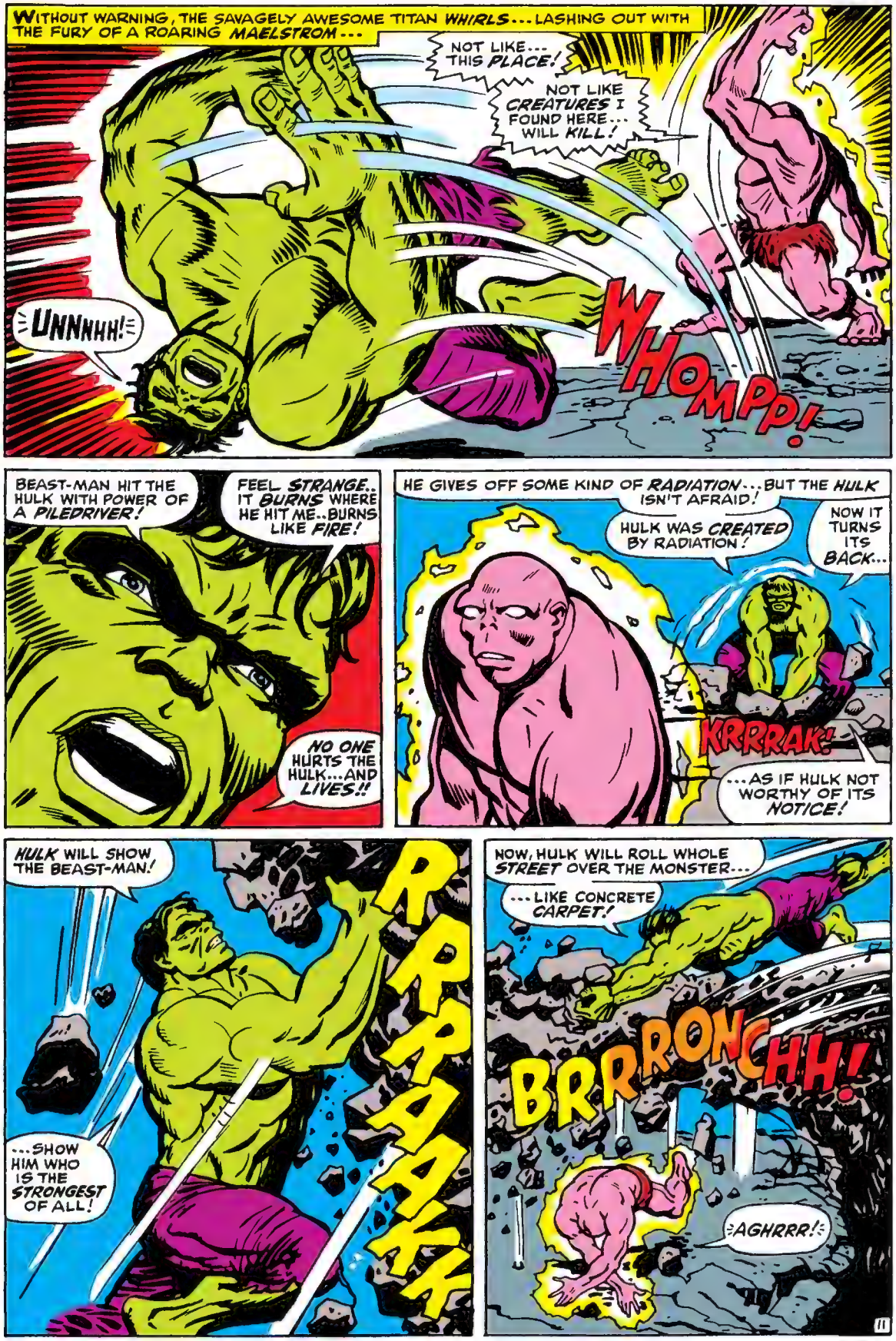

MEANWHILE, A DESPERATE BETTY ROSS HAS MANAGED TO GET THE WOUNDED BRUCE BANNER TO HER CAR, INSIDE THE HOTEL GARAGE ---
BRUCE ...YOU'RE ALIVE!
I WAS SO AFRAID... THOSE WOULD-BE CAR THIEVES HAD KILLED YOU...!
EXIT
IT'S ONLY... A FLESH WOUND... I THINK!
..THOUGH THAT'S NOT STOPPING IT FROM HURTING!
BUT, WHERE..?
NO TIME FOR QUESTIONS NOW, MY DARLING!
I'VE GOT TO GET YOU TO A DOCTOR!

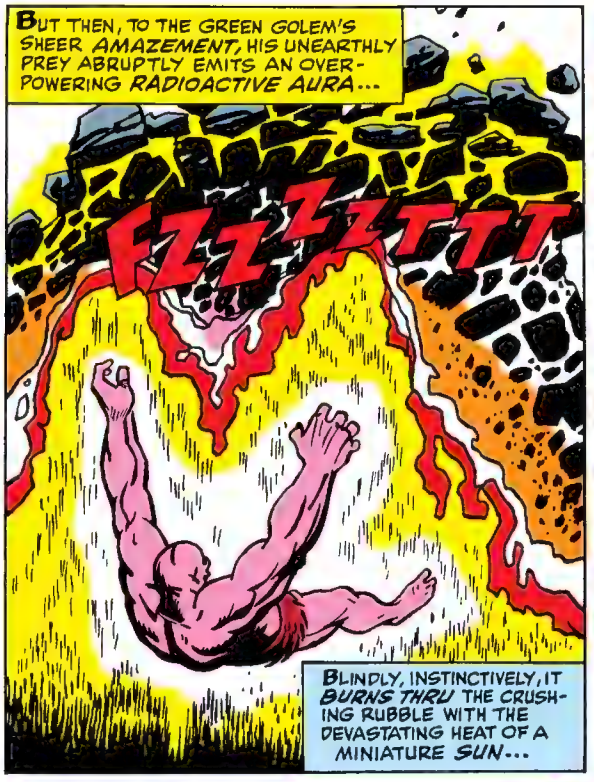

BUT, WHEN IT RAINS, IT POURS... AND SO, AS BETTY'S CAR CAREENS INTO THE STREET---
YOU THERE... HOLD IT!
PULL OVER! WE WANT TO TALK TO YOU...
... ABOUT THE SHOOTING WE JUST HEARD!
POLICE
NO! DON'T STOP FOR ANYTHING, BETTY!
STEP ON IT... FAST!
YES, BRUCE! I-- I SUPPOSE I MUST!
IF THEY STOP US NOW, THEY'LL TAKE BRUCE... BECAUSE THEY'LL KNOW HE'S THE HULK!
7

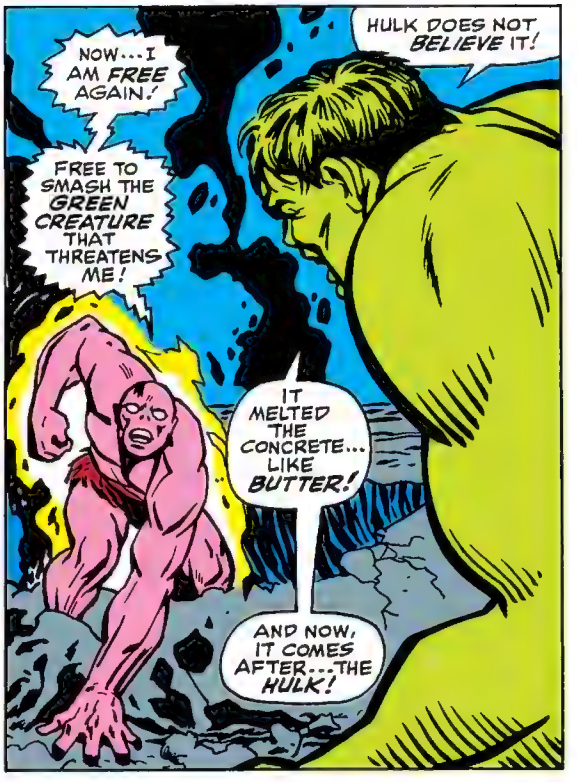
THEN, AS THE FLEEING CAR HURTLES OFF INTO THE NIGHT---
LOOK---IN THE MIRROR! THEY'RE FOLLOWING US!
FASTER, BETTY--- FASTER!!
I'M DRIVING AS FAST AS I DARE, BRUCE!
BUT, THEY'RE BOUND TO CATCH US, ANYWAY!
NO! THEY MUSTN'T!
I WON'T BE CAGED--- LIKE SOME MADDENED BEAST!
WAIT! ---THE EXCITEMENT... MY PULSE!
IT'S RACING--- CHANGING ME AGAIN--!
BRUCE---WHAT ARE YOU---??
SLOW DOWN..AT THE NEXT CORNER--!
DON'T WANT YOU--- MIXED UP IN THIS--!
YET, INSTANTS LATER, THE FIGURE THAT TUMBLES FROM THE SPEEDING VEHICLE IS NOT THAT OF A WEAKENED SCIENTIST---
---BUT THAT OF THE GARGANTUAN, GREEN-SKINNED HULK!!
THE HULK CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF!
NO NEED FOR THE GIRL---TO BE IN DANGER!
IF ONLY I CAN FIND DADDY!
MAYBE HE CAN HELP BRUCE..BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
EVERYBODY LOOKING FOR THE HULK---EVERYBODY OUT TO GET HIM!
BUT, NOBODY CATCHES THE HULK! NOBODY!
ONE GIANT LEAP, AND---
HULK CAN'T JUMP---NOT ENOUGH STRENGTH!
DON'T KNOW WHY... BUT SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH LEG!
MUST FIND ANOTHER WAY OUT OF HERE!
THUS, UNABLE TO RECALL THE WOUND HE RECEIVED AS BANNER, THE HULK IS BEWILDERED... CONFUSED...
8

BUT, IF OUR HARASSED HERO'S MEMORY MOMENTARILY FAILS HIM---HIS SENSES STAGGERING MIGHT DEFINITELY DOES NOT--!
HOLY HANNAH! HE'S KNOCKIN' A HOLE---THRU SOLID CONCRETE!
THE HULK ALWAYS FINDS A WAY---
IF HE CAN'T GO UP---
THWOMP!
---HE'LL GO DOWN!
IN CONEY IS
UNNHHH! THAT KNOCKED THE BREATH--- OUT OF HULK!
STILL, THE HULK IS LUCKY---TO LAND ON TOP OF SUBWAY TRAIN!
IT WILL CARRY HIM AWAY--- FAR AWAY---
THUD!
---WHERE NO ONE LOOKS FOR HIM!
N BROADWAY EXPRESS
57 STREET
CONEY IS.
NOW WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THIS BLASTED SUBWAY?
AFTER ALL THE TAXES WE PAY---
JUST THEN, EVEN AS THE ONRUSHING TRAIN CARRIES ITS GROTESQUE PASSENGER AWAY FROM HIS PURSUERS, ANOTHER THOUGHT SUDDENLY DAWNS IN HIS SOMEWHAT CLOUDED CRANIUM---
WAIT!! WHY IS THE HULK RUNNING--- LIKE SOME PUNY HUMAN?
THE HULK RUNS FROM NOTHING ON EARTH!
WHOMM!
MUST STAY... AND FIGHT!
9.


THE NEXT INSTANT, DESPITE THE TEMPORARY WEAKNESS IN HIS COLOSSAL LEGS, THE GREEN GOLIATH SMASHES UPWARD, HIS MASSIVE FIST SHATTERING SOOTED STEEL AND TILE---
KRUNCH!
HULK PANICKED--- TRIED TO FLEE, LIKE FRIGHTENED RAT!
BUT, HE WILL RUN NO MORE!
N BROADWAY
FOR, NOBODY IS STRONGER THAN THE HULK!
AND, NOTHING CAN STOP THE HULK--- WHEN HE'S ANGRY---
GRAKK!
NOTHING!!
SKRAK
BUT, AS SHEER, STARK COINCIDENCE WOULD HAVE IT, THE HULK HAS CHOSEN TO SURFACE AT PERHAPS THE ONLY PLACE WHERE STANDS ONE WHO CAN STOP THE HULK---
---FOR, AS THE WOUNDED BEHEMOTH EMERGES INTO THE DARKENED CITY---
RRRRR
WHAT IS THAT? SOME HUGE MONSTER---
IS IT AFTER HULK ---LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE?
WHAT DOES IT WANT FROM THE HULK?
10.

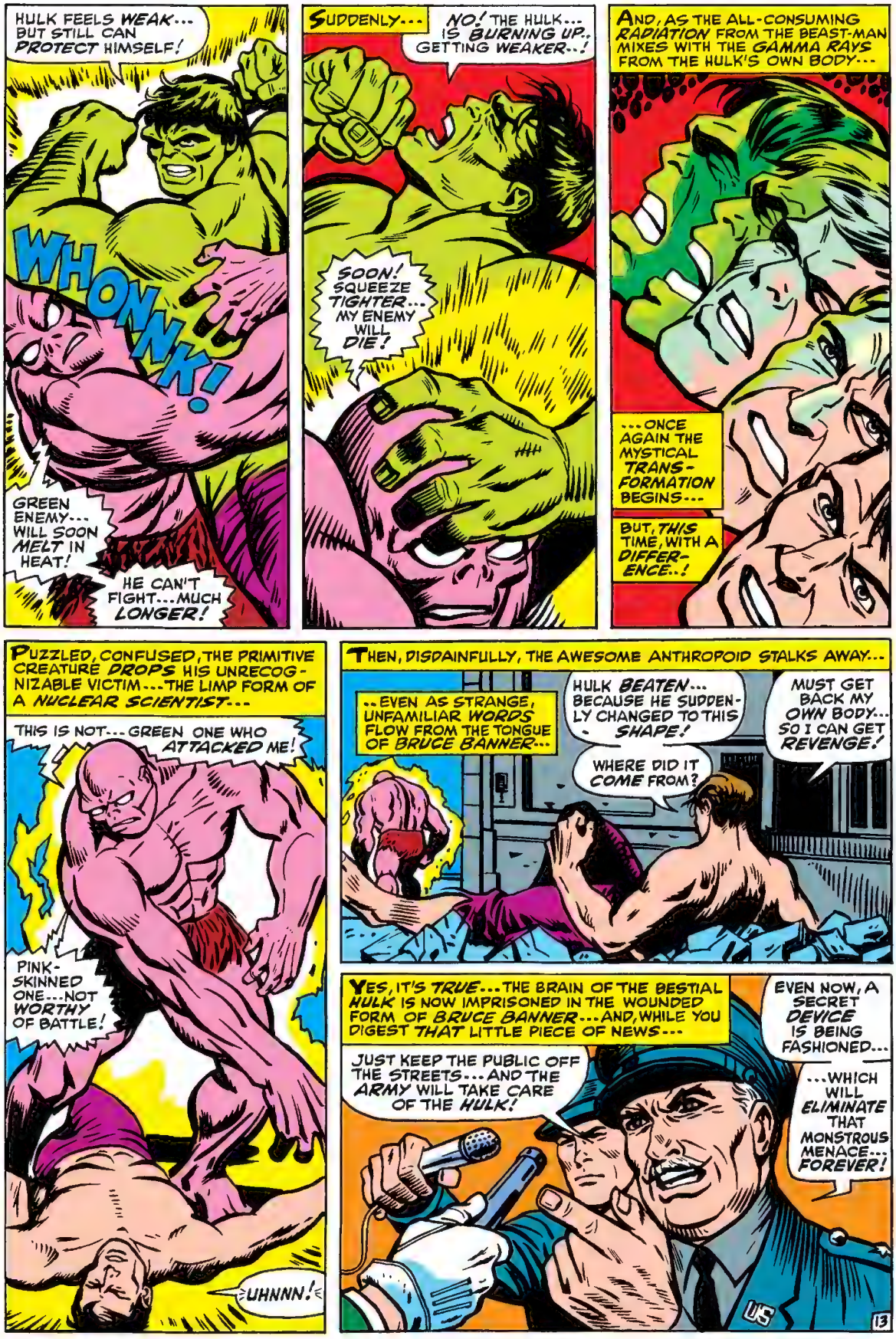

WITHOUT WARNING, THE SAVAGELY AWESOME TITAN WHIRLS... LASHING OUT WITH THE FURY OF A ROARING MAELSTROM...
NOT LIKE... THIS PLACE!
NOT LIKE CREATURES I FOUND HERE... WILL KILL!
UNNNHH!
WHOMPP!
BEAST-MAN HIT THE HULK WITH POWER OF A PILEDRIVER!
FEEL STRANGE.. IT BURNS WHERE HE HIT ME..BURNS LIKE FIRE!
NO ONE HURTS THE HULK...AND LIVES!!
HE GIVES OFF SOME KIND OF RADIATION...BUT THE HULK ISN'T AFRAID!
HULK WAS CREATED BY RADIATION!
NOW IT TURNS ITS BACK...
KRRRAK!
...AS IF HULK NOT WORTHY OF ITS NOTICE!
HULK WILL SHOW THE BEAST-MAN!
...SHOW HIM WHO IS THE STRONGEST OF ALL!
RRRAAK
NOW, HULK WILL ROLL WHOLE STREET OVER THE MONSTER...
...LIKE CONCRETE CARPET!
BRRRONCHH!
AGHRRR!
11

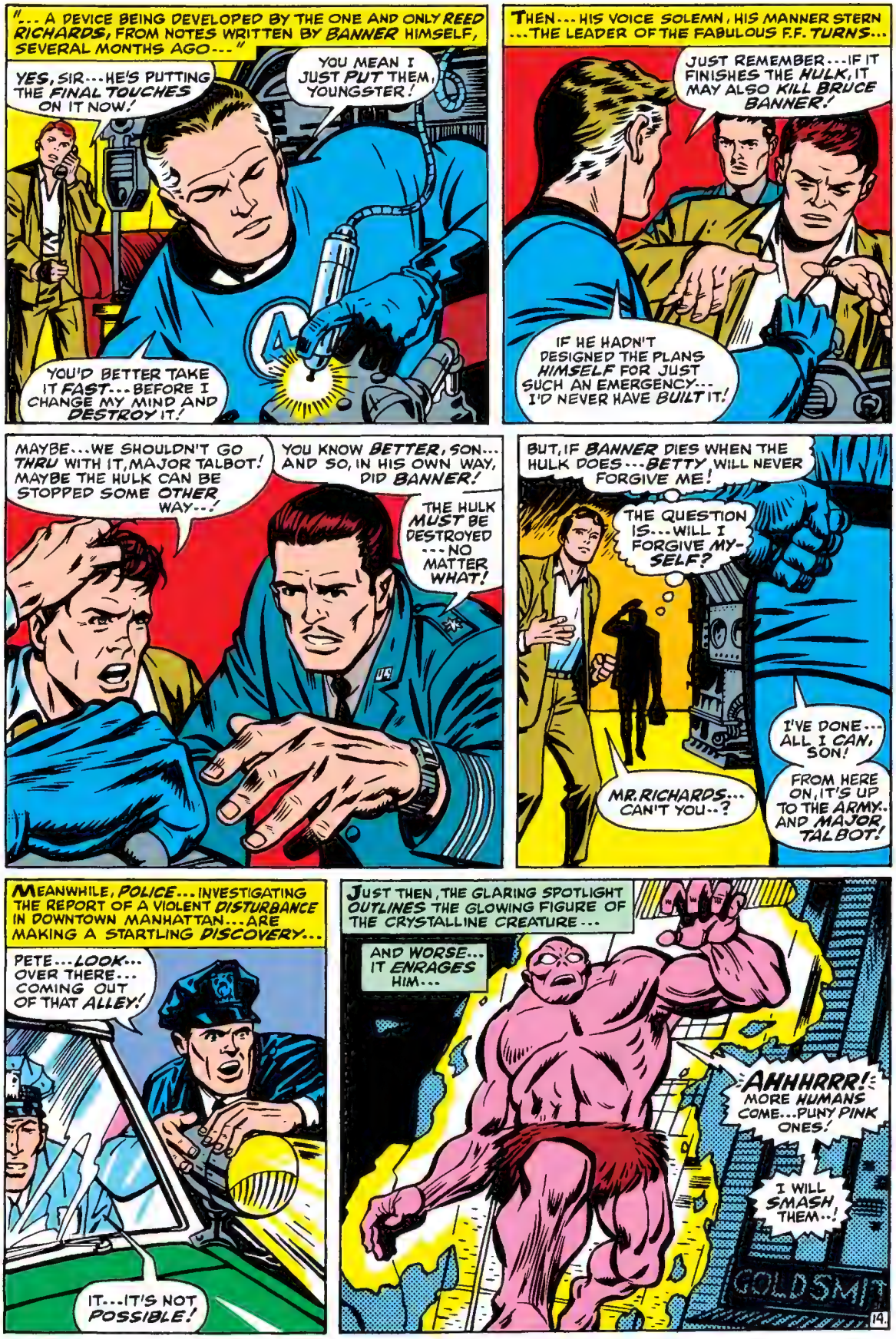

BUT THEN, TO THE GREEN GOLEM'S SHEER AMAZEMENT, HIS UNEARTHLY PREY ABRUPTLY EMITS AN OVER-POWERING RADIOACTIVE AURA...
FZZZZTTT
BLINDLY, INSTINCTIVELY, IT BURNS THRU THE CRUSHING RUBBLE WITH THE DEVASTATING HEAT OF A MINIATURE SUN...

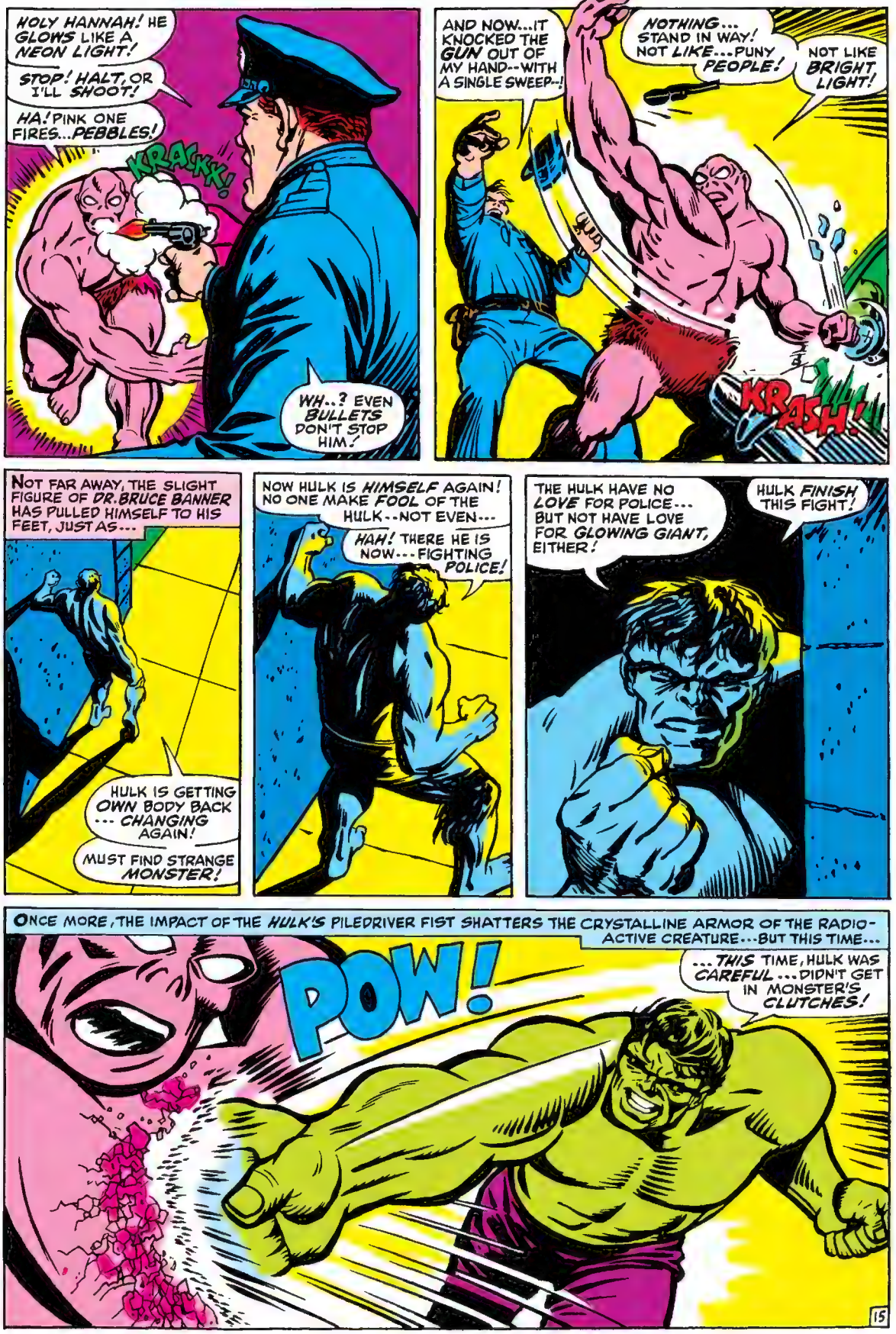

NOW...I AM FREE AGAIN!
FREE TO SMASH THE GREEN CREATURE THAT THREATENS ME!
HULK DOES NOT BELIEVE IT!
IT MELTED THE CONCRETE... LIKE BUTTER!
AND NOW, IT COMES AFTER...THE HULK!

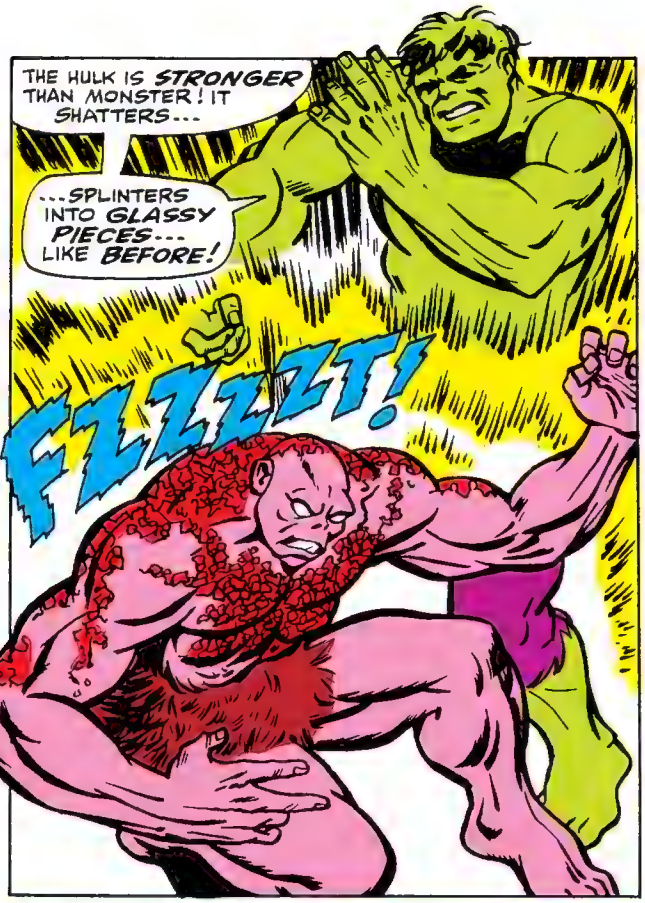
THUS, A MOMENT LATER, TWO UNBELIEVABLY POWERFUL JUGGERNAUTS CLASHED IN CLOSE COMBAT---EACH THINKING THAT THE OTHER ORIGINALLY ATTACKED IT---
THEN, SUDDENLY...
FIST...SHATTERS PART OF BEAST-MAN'S SHOULDER ...INTO CRYSTALS!
BUT--THE BURNING HURTS HULK--- WORSE THAN HIS VICTIM!
HAH! HE IS STARTLED... CONFUSED!
I MUST STRIKE... NOW!!
THUMP!

AND, EVEN AS THE CRYSTALLINE CELLS OF THE BEAST-MAN'S BODY FUSE TOGETHER AGAIN, THRU THE POWER OF RADIATION---
AAARRHH! MY ENEMY HAS THE HULK---IN A BEAR-HUG!
HULK BURNS... BURNS ALL OVER!!
MUST CRUSH MY ATTACKER... ONCE AND FOR ALL!
KRUNNCH!


HULK FEELS WEAK... BUT STILL CAN PROTECT HIMSELF!
WHONNK!
GREEN ENEMY... WILL SOON MELT IN HEAT!
HE CAN'T FIGHT...MUCH LONGER!
SUDDENLY...
NO! THE HULK... IS BURNING UP... GETTING WEAKER..!
SOON! SQUEEZE TIGHTER... MY ENEMY WILL DIE!
AND, AS THE ALL-CONSUMING RADIATION FROM THE BEAST-MAN MIXES WITH THE GAMMA RAYS FROM THE HULK'S OWN BODY...
...ONCE AGAIN THE MYSTICAL TRANS-FORMATION BEGINS...
BUT, THIS TIME, WITH A DIFFER-ENCE..!
PUZZLED, CONFUSED, THE PRIMITIVE CREATURE DROPS HIS UNRECOG-NIZABLE VICTIM...THE LIMP FORM OF A NUCLEAR SCIENTIST...
THIS IS NOT...GREEN ONE WHO ATTACKED ME!
PINK-SKINNED ONE...NOT WORTHY OF BATTLE!
UHNNN!
THEN, DISDAINFULLY, THE AWESOME ANTHROPOID STALKS AWAY...
..EVEN AS STRANGE, UNFAMILIAR WORDS FLOW FROM THE TONGUE OF BRUCE BANNER...
HULK BEATEN... BECAUSE HE SUDDEN-LY CHANGED TO THIS - SHAPE!
WHERE DID IT COME FROM?
MUST GET BACK MY OWN BODY... SO I CAN GET REVENGE!
YES, IT'S TRUE...THE BRAIN OF THE BESTIAL HULK IS NOW IMPRISONED IN THE WOUNDED FORM OF BRUCE BANNER...AND, WHILE YOU DIGEST THAT LITTLE PIECE OF NEWS...
JUST KEEP THE PUBLIC OFF THE STREETS...AND THE ARMY WILL TAKE CARE OF THE HULK!
EVEN NOW, A SECRET DEVICE IS BEING FASHIONED...
...WHICH WILL ELIMINATE THAT MONSTROUS MENACE... FOREVER!
US
13


"... A DEVICE BEING DEVELOPED BY THE ONE AND ONLY REED RICHARDS, FROM NOTES WRITTEN BY BANNER HIMSELF, SEVERAL MONTHS AGO..."
YES, SIR... HE'S PUTTING THE FINAL TOUCHES ON IT NOW!
YOU MEAN I JUST PUT THEM, YOUNGSTER!
YOU'D BETTER TAKE IT FAST... BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND AND DESTROY IT!
THEN... HIS VOICE SOLEMN, HIS MANNER STERN ...THE LEADER OF THE FABULOUS F.F. TURNS...
JUST REMEMBER... IF IT FINISHES THE HULK, IT MAY ALSO KILL BRUCE BANNER!
IF HE HADN'T DESIGNED THE PLANS HIMSELF FOR JUST SUCH AN EMERGENCY... I'D NEVER HAVE BUILT IT!
MAYBE... WE SHOULDN'T GO THRU WITH IT, MAJOR TALBOT! MAYBE THE HULK CAN BE STOPPED SOME OTHER WAY...!
YOU KNOW BETTER, SON... AND SO, IN HIS OWN WAY, DID BANNER!
THE HULK MUST BE DESTROYED ...NO MATTER WHAT!
BUT, IF BANNER DIES WHEN THE HULK DOES... BETTY WILL NEVER FORGIVE ME!
THE QUESTION IS... WILL I FORGIVE MYSELF?
I'VE DONE... ALL I CAN, SON!
FROM HERE ON, IT'S UP TO THE ARMY AND MAJOR TALBOT!
MR. RICHARDS... CAN'T YOU..?
MEANWHILE, POLICE... INVESTIGATING THE REPORT OF A VIOLENT DISTURBANCE IN DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN... ARE MAKING A STARTLING DISCOVERY...
PETE... LOOK... OVER THERE... COMING OUT OF THAT ALLEY!
IT... IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
JUST THEN, THE GLARING SPOTLIGHT OUTLINES THE GLOWING FIGURE OF THE CRYSTALLINE CREATURE...
AND WORSE... IT ENRAGES HIM...
AHHHRRR! MORE HUMANS COME... PUNY PINK ONES!
I WILL SMASH THEM..!
GOLDSMIT
14.

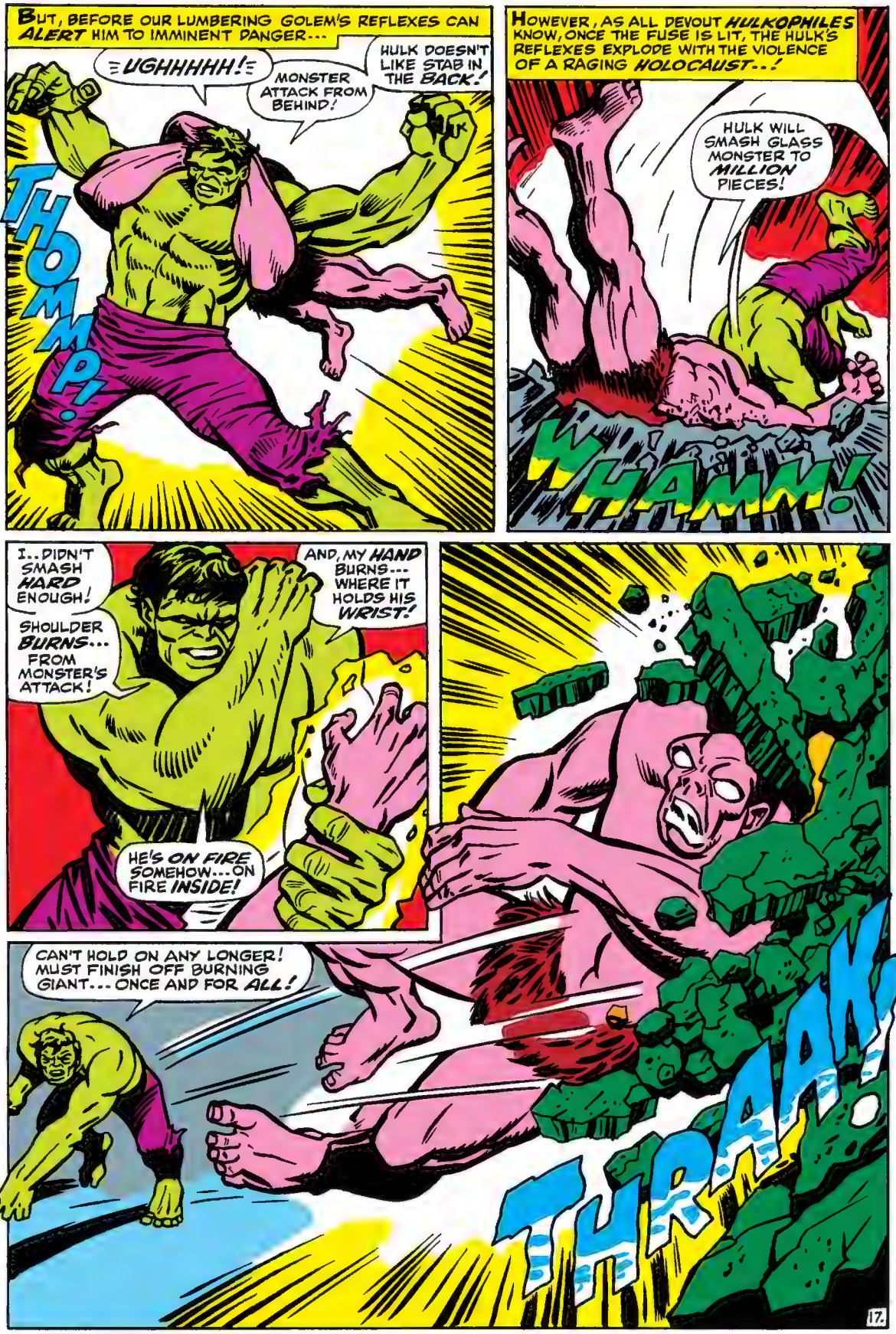

HOLY HANNAH! HE GLOWS LIKE A NEON LIGHT!
STOP! HALT, OR I'LL SHOOT!
HA! PINK ONE FIRES...PEBBLES!
KRACKK!
WH..? EVEN BULLETS DON'T STOP HIM!
AND NOW...IT KNOCKED THE GUN OUT OF MY HAND--WITH A SINGLE SWEEP--!
NOTHING... STAND IN WAY! NOT LIKE...PUNY PEOPLE!
NOT LIKE BRIGHT LIGHT!
KRASH!
NOT FAR AWAY, THE SLIGHT FIGURE OF DR. BRUCE BANNER HAS PULLED HIMSELF TO HIS FEET, JUST AS...
HULK IS GETTING OWN BODY BACK ... CHANGING AGAIN!
MUST FIND STRANGE MONSTER!
NOW HULK IS HIMSELF AGAIN! NO ONE MAKE FOOL OF THE HULK--NOT EVEN...
HAH! THERE HE IS NOW...FIGHTING POLICE!
THE HULK HAVE NO LOVE FOR POLICE... BUT NOT HAVE LOVE FOR GLOWING GIANT, EITHER!
HULK FINISH THIS FIGHT!
ONCE MORE, THE IMPACT OF THE HULK'S PILEDRIVER FIST SHATTERS THE CRYSTALLINE ARMOR OF THE RADIOACTIVE CREATURE...BUT THIS TIME...
POW!
...THIS TIME, HULK WAS CAREFUL ...DIDN'T GET IN MONSTER'S CLUTCHES!
15


THE HULK IS STRONGER THAN MONSTER! IT SHATTERS---
---SPLINTERS INTO GLASSY PIECES--- LIKE BEFORE!
FZZZZT!

HULK DOESN'T UNDERSTAND WHY THE MONSTER TRIES TO DESTROY EVERYTHING---
BUT NO ONE DESTROYS THE HULK!
MORE POLICE COME!
HULK READY FOR THEM!
O LEARY ...LOOK! HELP'S COMING!

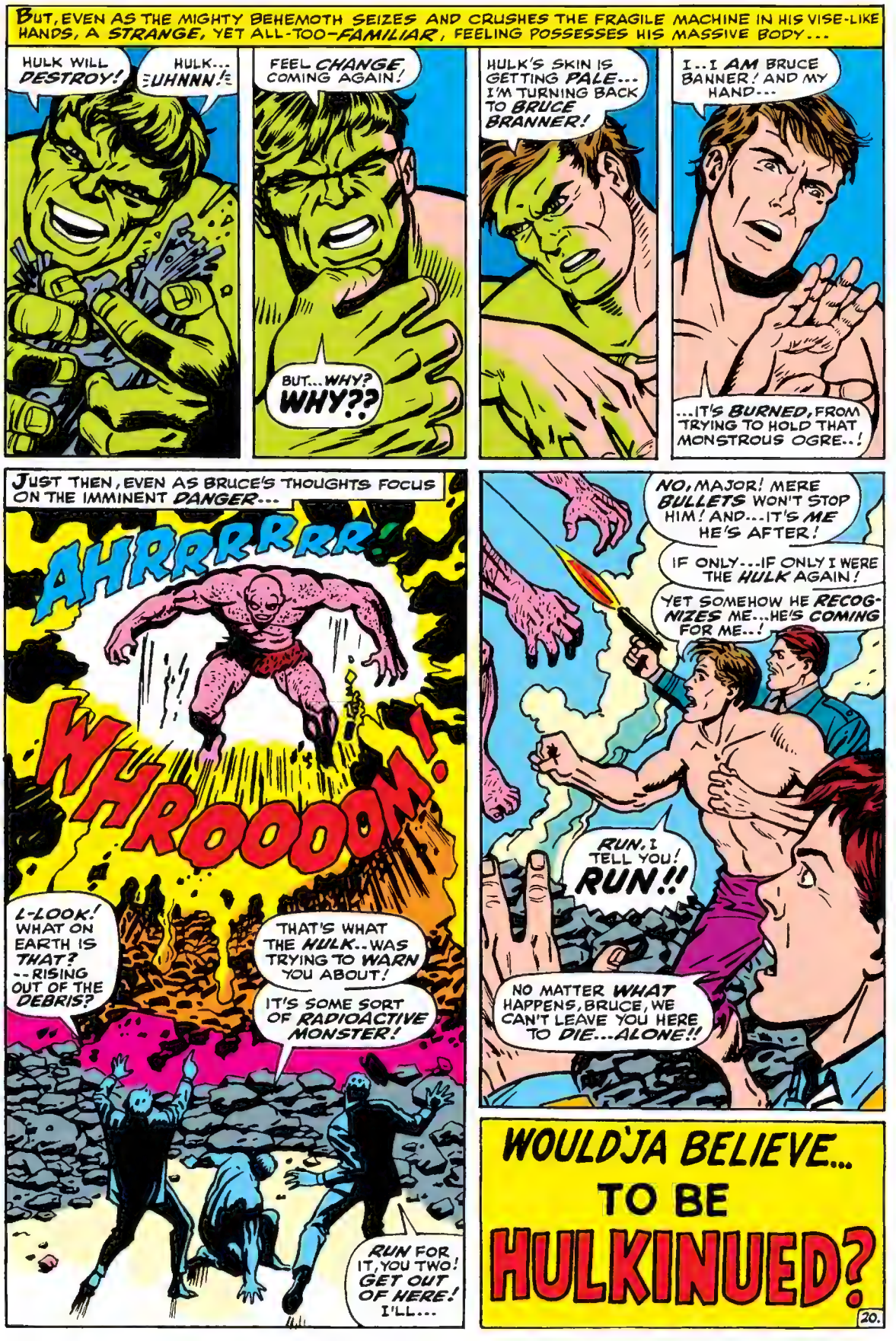
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HIS FOE'S TEMPORARY IMMOBILITY, THE GREEN GOLIATH TURNS HIS GREAT POWER ON THE APPROACHING POLICE REINFORCEMENTS ---
SKREEEEEE
POLICE NOT INTERFERE WITH HULK'S PRIVATE FIGHT! HULK HANDLE BEAST-MAN BY HIMSELF!

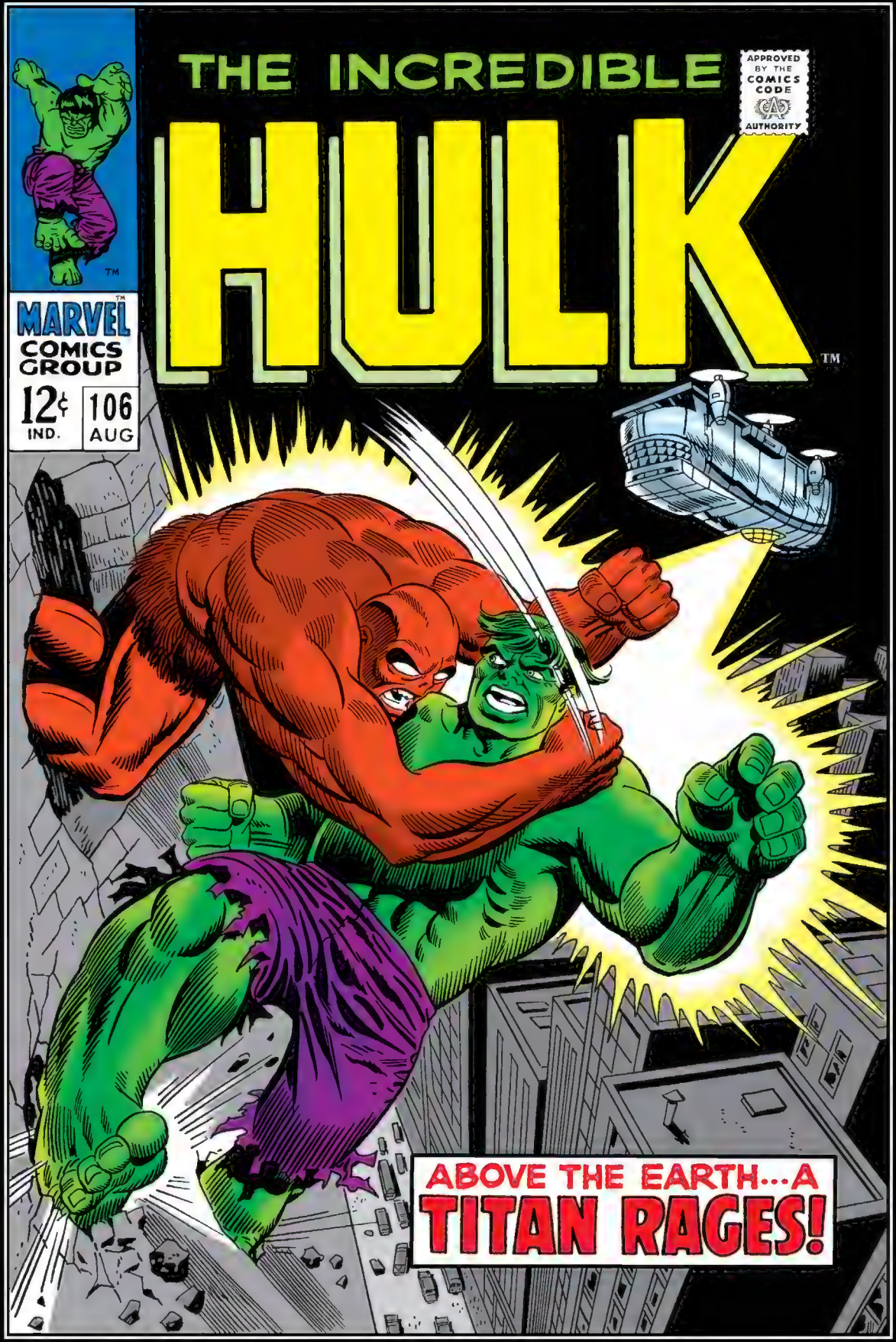
THE SLIGHT RESPITE, HOWEVER, ALLOWS JUST ENOUGH TIME FOR ITS GLOWING HEAT TO WELD THE RADIOACTIVE TITAN'S CRYSTAL COMPONENTS TOGETHER---
CAR TAKE HURT POLICEMAN TO HOSPITAL!
NOW THE HULK WILL TAKE CARE OF MONSTER!
AGHRRRR!


BUT, BEFORE OUR LUMBERING GOLEM'S REFLEXES CAN ALERT HIM TO IMMINENT DANGER---
UGHHHHH!
MONSTER ATTACK FROM BEHIND!
HULK DOESN'T LIKE STAB IN THE BACK!
THOMP!
HOWEVER, AS ALL DEVOUT HULKOPHILES KNOW, ONCE THE FUSE IS LIT, THE HULK'S REFLEXES EXPLODE WITH THE VIOLENCE OF A RAGING HOLOCAUST--!
HULK WILL SMASH GLASS MONSTER TO MILLION PIECES!
WHAMM!
I..DIDN'T SMASH HARD ENOUGH!
SHOULDER BURNS... FROM MONSTER'S ATTACK!
AND, MY HAND BURNS--- WHERE IT HOLDS HIS WRIST!
HE'S ON FIRE SOMEHOW...ON FIRE INSIDE!
CAN'T HOLD ON ANY LONGER! MUST FINISH OFF BURNING GIANT--- ONCE AND FOR ALL!
THRAAK!
17.

MUST FIX IT... SO THE MONSTER NEVER GETS UP AGAIN!
JUST STRENGTH ENOUGH LEFT... IN HURT LEG... TO LEAP UP SIDE OF BUILDING..
...AND SMASH IT!
KA-
POW!
I'LL BURY THE MONSTER UNDER CONCRETE... BRICKS... STEEL!
INSTANTLY, JUST AS A SPEEDING CAR SCREECHES TO A HALT IN THE SHADOWS, A TORRENT OF RUBBLE CRASHES TO THE STREET BELOW...
MAJOR TALBOT! LOOK... UP THERE! THE HULK!
WATCH OUT! THE WHOLE SIDE OF THE BUILDING'S COMING DOWN!
HE'S ON A RAMPAGE, ALL RIGHT... JUST LIKE THEY SAID! LET ME GET A SHOT AT HIM WITH THIS MACHINE RICHARDS RIGGED UP!
NO... WAIT! WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO BETTY, FIRST!
HULK! HULK! CAN YOU HEAR ME?
IT'S THE BOY... RICK.. WITH ARMY FRIEND OF GIRL!
THE FOOLS! DON'T THEY KNOW WHAT LIES BENEATH THAT PILE OF BRICKS?
HULK NOT FINISHED WITH BURNING BEAST-MAN YET!
ANSWER ME! WHERE'S THE GIRL? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH HER?
18

NO TIME TO ANSWER QUESTIONS NOW!
MUST PILE MORE RUBBLE ON TOP OF MONSTER---
THE HULK DOESN'T KNOW WHERE THE GIRL IS, ANYHOW!
RRRIP!
NOT LET HIM ATTACK AGAIN!
AND, AS WHAT REMAINS OF THE BUILDING CRASHES DOWN WITH A DEAFENING ROAR, SO DOES THE INCREDIBLE HULK BOUNDING TO HIS COLOSSAL FEET, LEAPING CLEAR OF THE CRUSHING TORRENT---
KRAAA-SH!
HULK DOESN'T KNOW IF THAT'S ENOUGH TO HOLD HIM---
---BUT MUST WARN THE BOY AND THE MAJOR!
MAJOR TALBOT--- WAIT, LISTEN! I THINK HE'S TRYING TO TELL US SOMETHING!
GET OUT OF THE WAY, KID! HE'S HURT!
THIS MAY BE OUR ONLY CHANCE!
HULK WEAK FROM FALL ON BAD LEG...CAN HARDLY TALK!
MUST WARN THEM AWAY--- SOMEHOW---
THEN, SUDDENLY---
THE SUDDEN, BLINDING FLASH HURLS THE GREEN GOLIATH TO HIS FEET, AS HE REELS UNDER ITS STUNNING IMPACT!
=UGHHHH!=
ZAAPPT!
THE MAJOR SHOOTS A STRANGE LIGHT AT HULK!
HULK WILL DESTROY LIGHT --- DESTROY ANYTHING THAT MENACES HIM!


BUT, EVEN AS THE MIGHTY BEHEMOTH SEIZES AND CRUSHES THE FRAGILE MACHINE IN HIS VISE-LIKE HANDS, A STRANGE, YET ALL-TOO-FAMILIAR, FEELING POSSESSES HIS MASSIVE BODY...
HULK WILL DESTROY!
HULK... UHNNN!
FEEL CHANGE COMING AGAIN!
BUT...WHY? WHY??
HULK'S SKIN IS GETTING PALE... I'M TURNING BACK TO BRUCE BRANNER!
I..I AM BRUCE BANNER! AND MY HAND...
...IT'S BURNED, FROM TRYING TO HOLD THAT MONSTROUS OGRE..!
JUST THEN, EVEN AS BRUCE'S THOUGHTS FOCUS ON THE IMMINENT DANGER...
AHRRRRRR!
WHROOOOM!
L-LOOK! WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT? --RISING OUT OF THE DEBRIS?
THAT'S WHAT THE HULK--WAS TRYING TO WARN YOU ABOUT!
IT'S SOME SORT OF RADIOACTIVE MONSTER!
RUN FOR IT, YOU TWO! GET OUT OF HERE! I'LL...
NO, MAJOR! MERE BULLETS WON'T STOP HIM! AND...IT'S ME HE'S AFTER!
IF ONLY---IF ONLY I WERE THE HULK AGAIN!
YET SOMEHOW HE RECOGNIZES ME...HE'S COMING FOR ME..!
RUN, I TELL YOU! RUN!!
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, BRUCE, WE CAN'T LEAVE YOU HERE TO DIE...ALONE!!
WOULD'JA BELIEVE... TO BE HULKINUED?
20.

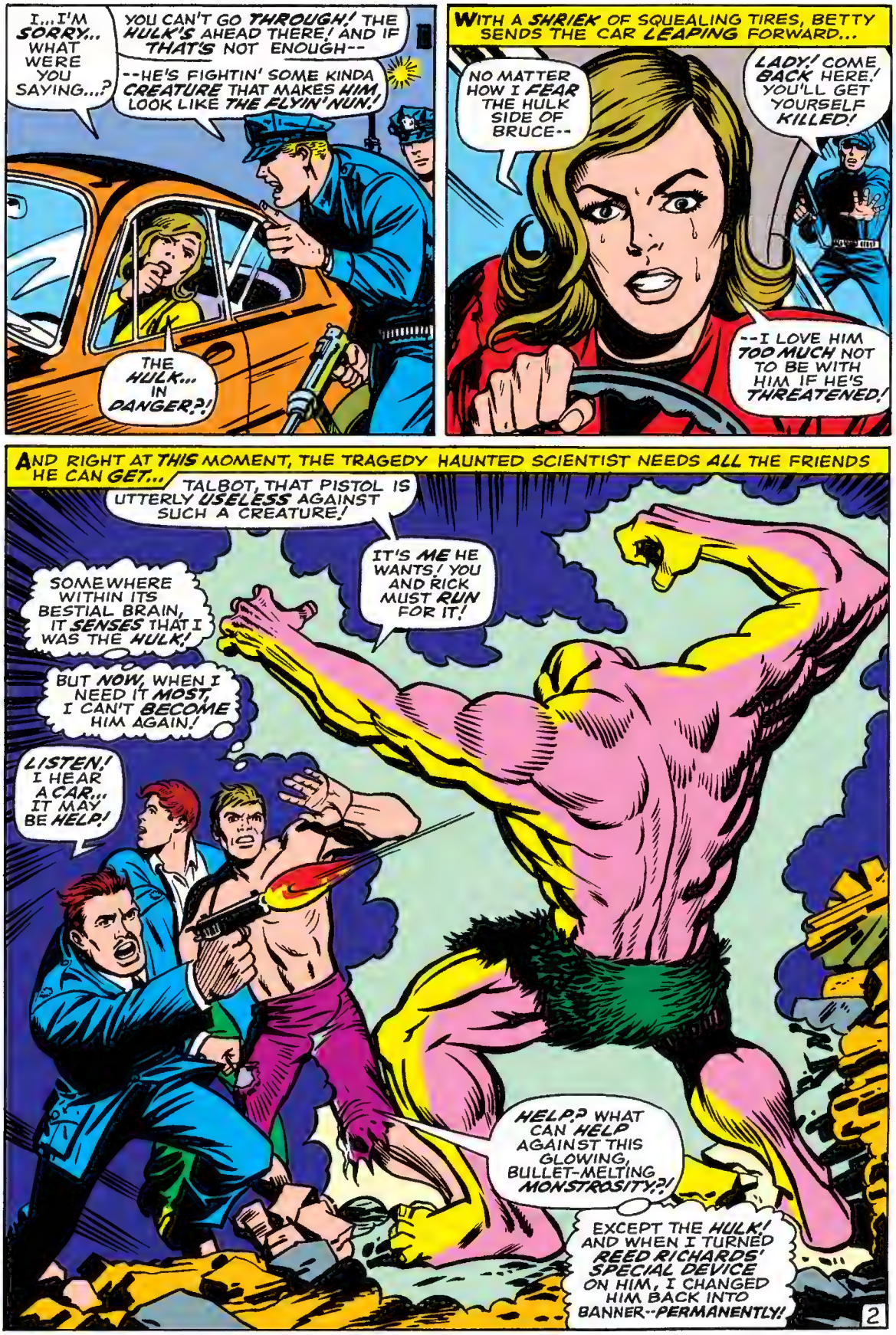

THE INCREDIBLE
HULK
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
106 AUG
ABOVE THE EARTH...A
TITAN RAGES!

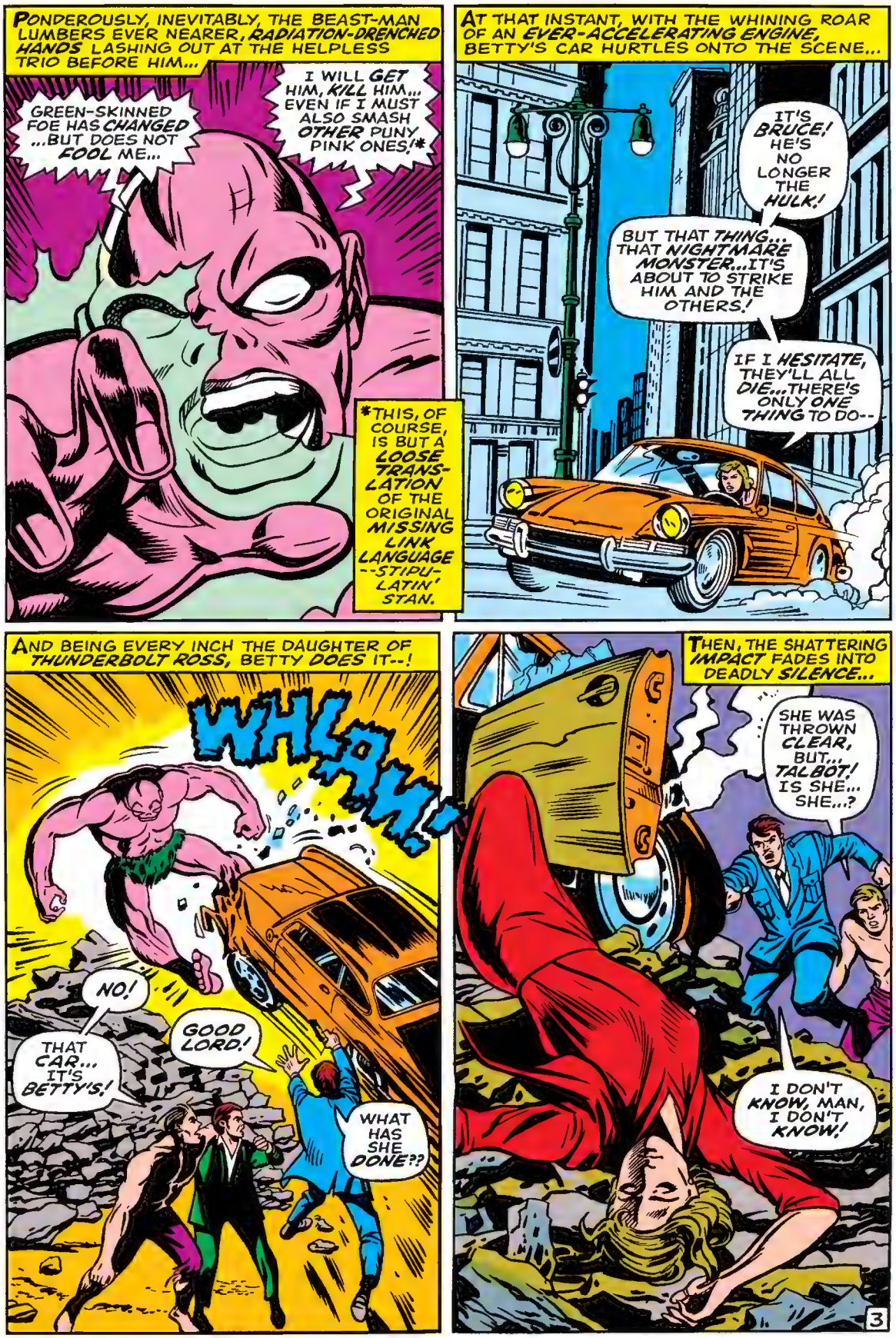
THE INCREDIBLE HULK!™

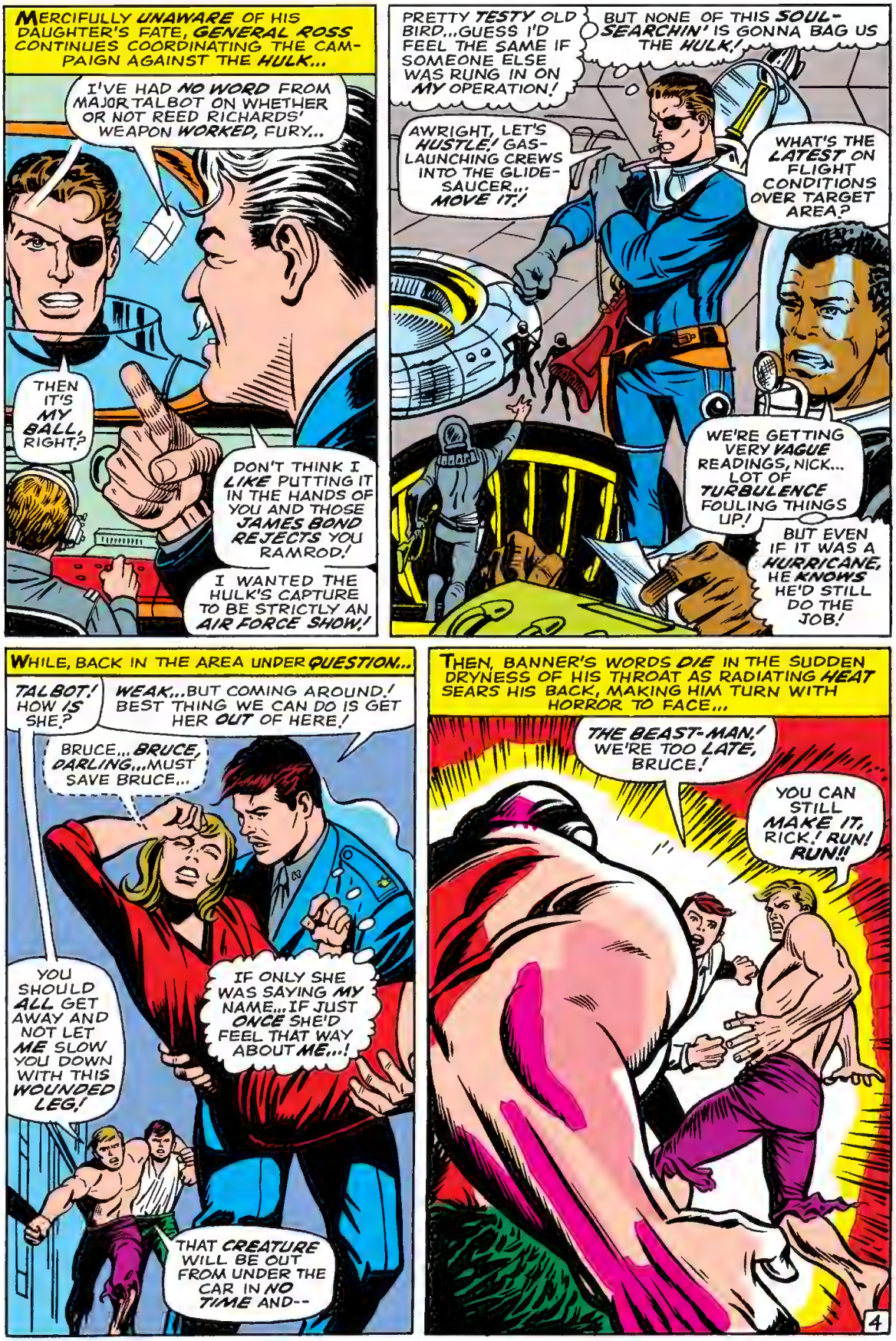
"ABOVE THE EARTH... A TITAN RAGES!"

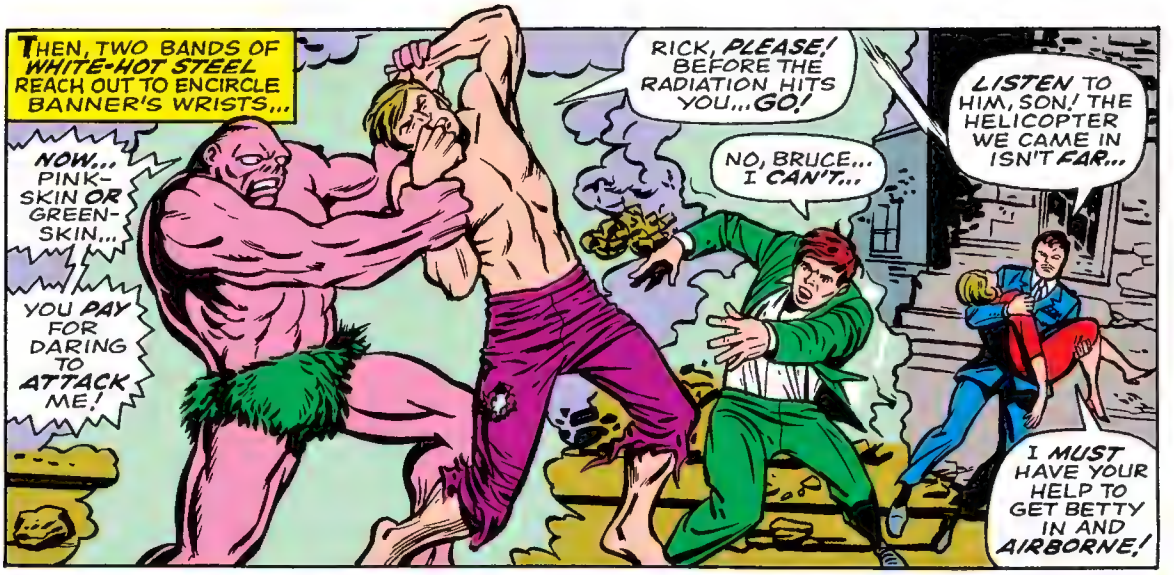
WITH BOTH THE HULK AND THE RADIOACTIVE MISSING LINK ON THE LOOSE, POLICE TRY TO CLEAR THE AREA OF ALL CARS... ONE IS THAT OF BETTY ROSS...
LADY, WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOIN'? WE'RE TRYIN' TO CORDON OFF THIS SECTION...
DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT'S DOIN' UP AHEAD? LADY, AREN'T YOU EVEN LISTENIN', LADY?!
WHERE IS BRUCE? WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM NOW?
HE WAS WOUNDED WHEN HE BEGAN CHANGING TO THE HULK AND LEAPED FROM THE CAR...
IF ONLY HE'D STAYED WITH ME, LET ME TRY TO HELP! BUT CAN ANYONE HELP HIM WHEN HE BECOMES THAT MONSTER...?
I...I JUST DON'T KNOW ANYMORE... I'M SO WORRIED, SO CONFUSED... CAN'T THINK...!
AND, IF YOU THINK YOU'VE SEEN KING-SIZED CREDITS BEFORE, LET US LAY THESE ON YOU, PILGRIM...!

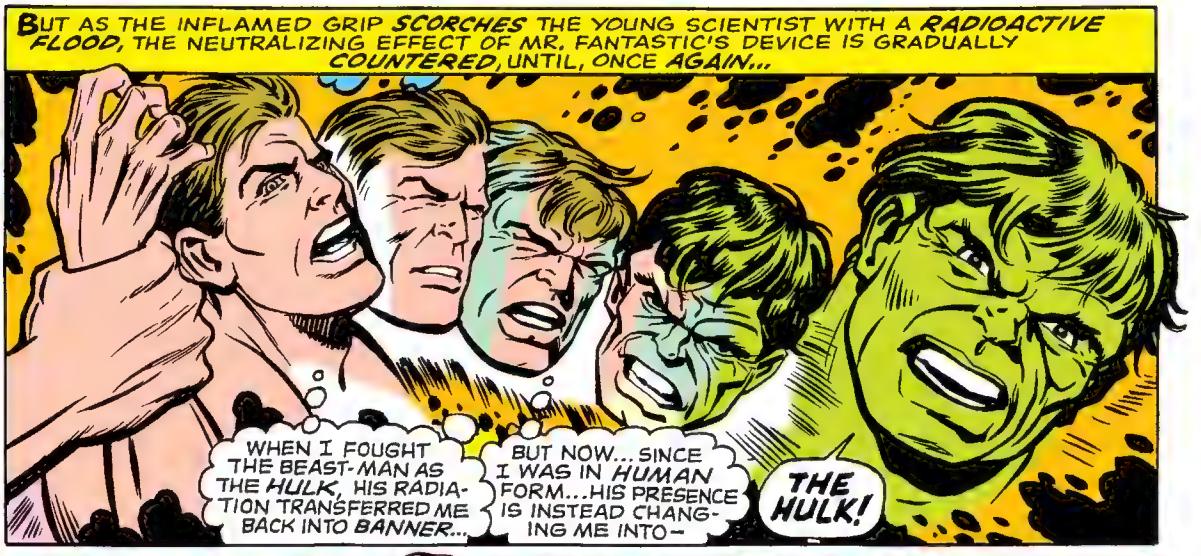
STAN LEE, EDITOR	ARCHIE GOODWIN, SCRIPTER (FIRST 10 PAGES)	ROY THOMAS, SCRIPTER (LAST 10 PAGES)	MARIE SEVERIN, BREAK-DOWNER	HERB TRIMPE, PENCILLER	GEORGE TUSKA, INKER	ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER	IRVING FORBUSH, ER...?

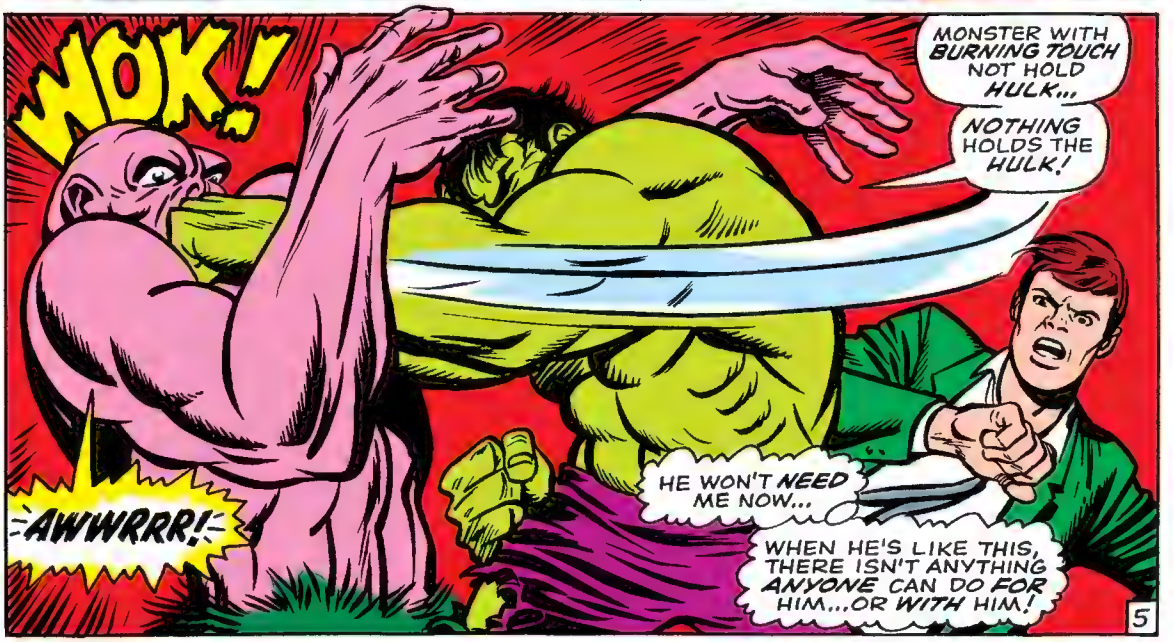

I...I'M SORRY... WHAT WERE YOU SAYING...?
YOU CAN'T GO THROUGH! THE HULK'S AHEAD THERE! AND IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH--
--HE'S FIGHTIN' SOME KINDA CREATURE THAT MAKES HIM LOOK LIKE THE FLYIN' NUN!
THE HULK... IN DANGER?!
WITH A SHRIEK OF SQUEALING TIRES, BETTY SENDS THE CAR LEAPING FORWARD...
NO MATTER HOW I FEAR THE HULK SIDE OF BRUCE--
LADY! COME BACK HERE! YOU'LL GET YOURSELF KILLED!
--I LOVE HIM TOO MUCH NOT TO BE WITH HIM IF HE'S THREATENED!
AND RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT, THE TRAGEDY HAUNTED SCIENTIST NEEDS ALL THE FRIENDS HE CAN GET...
TALBOT, THAT PISTOL IS UTTERLY USELESS AGAINST SUCH A CREATURE!
IT'S ME HE WANTS! YOU AND RICK MUST RUN FOR IT!
SOMEWHERE WITHIN ITS BESTIAL BRAIN, IT SENSES THAT I WAS THE HULK!
BUT NOW, WHEN I NEED IT MOST, I CAN'T BECOME HIM AGAIN!
LISTEN! I HEAR A CAR... IT MAY BE HELP!
HELP?! WHAT CAN HELP AGAINST THIS GLOWING, BULLET-MELTING MONSTROSITY?!
EXCEPT THE HULK! AND WHEN I TURNED REED RICHARDS' SPECIAL DEVICE ON HIM, I CHANGED HIM BACK INTO BANNER--PERMANENTLY!
2

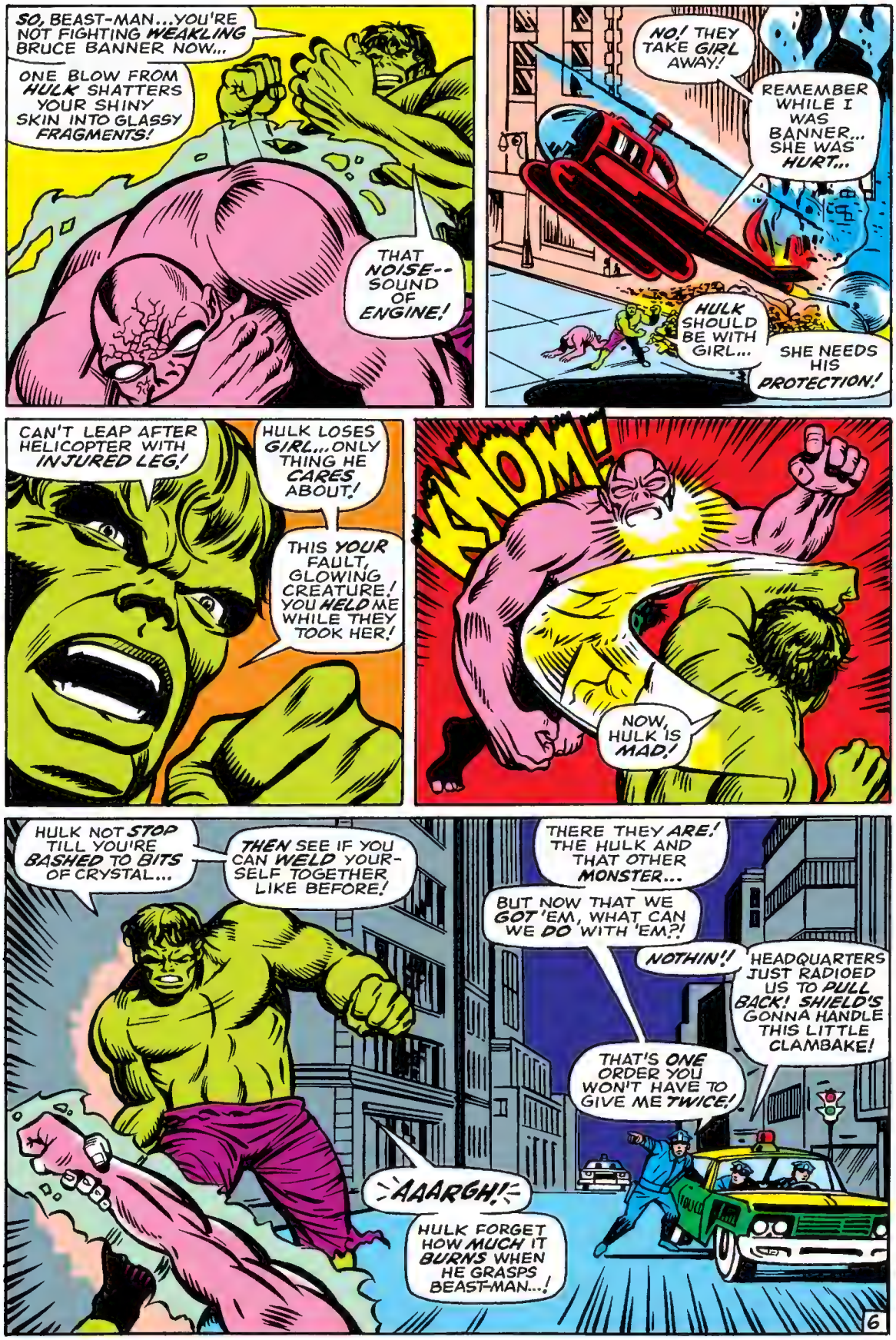

PONDEROUSLY, INEVITABLY, THE BEAST-MAN LUMBERS EVER NEARER, RADIATION-DRENCHED HANDS LASHING OUT AT THE HELPLESS TRIO BEFORE HIM...
GREEN-SKINNED FOE HAS CHANGED ...BUT DOES NOT FOOL ME...
I WILL GET HIM, KILL HIM... EVEN IF I MUST ALSO SMASH OTHER PUNY PINK ONES!*
*THIS, OF COURSE, IS BUT A LOOSE TRANS-LATION OF THE ORIGINAL MISSING LINK LANGUAGE --STIPU-LATIN' STAN.
AT THAT INSTANT, WITH THE WHINING ROAR OF AN EVER-ACCELERATING ENGINE, BETTY'S CAR HURTLES ONTO THE SCENE...
IT'S BRUCE! HE'S NO LONGER THE HULK!
BUT THAT THING... THAT NIGHTMARE MONSTER...IT'S ABOUT TO STRIKE HIM AND THE OTHERS!
IF I HESITATE, THEY'LL ALL DIE...THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO--
AND BEING EVERY INCH THE DAUGHTER OF THUNDERBOLT ROSS, BETTY DOES IT--!
WHLAM!
NO!
THAT CAR... IT'S BETTY'S!
GOOD LORD!
WHAT HAS SHE DONE??
THEN, THE SHATTERING IMPACT FADES INTO DEADLY SILENCE...
SHE WAS THROWN CLEAR, BUT... TALBOT! IS SHE... SHE...?
I DON'T KNOW, MAN, I DON'T KNOW!
3

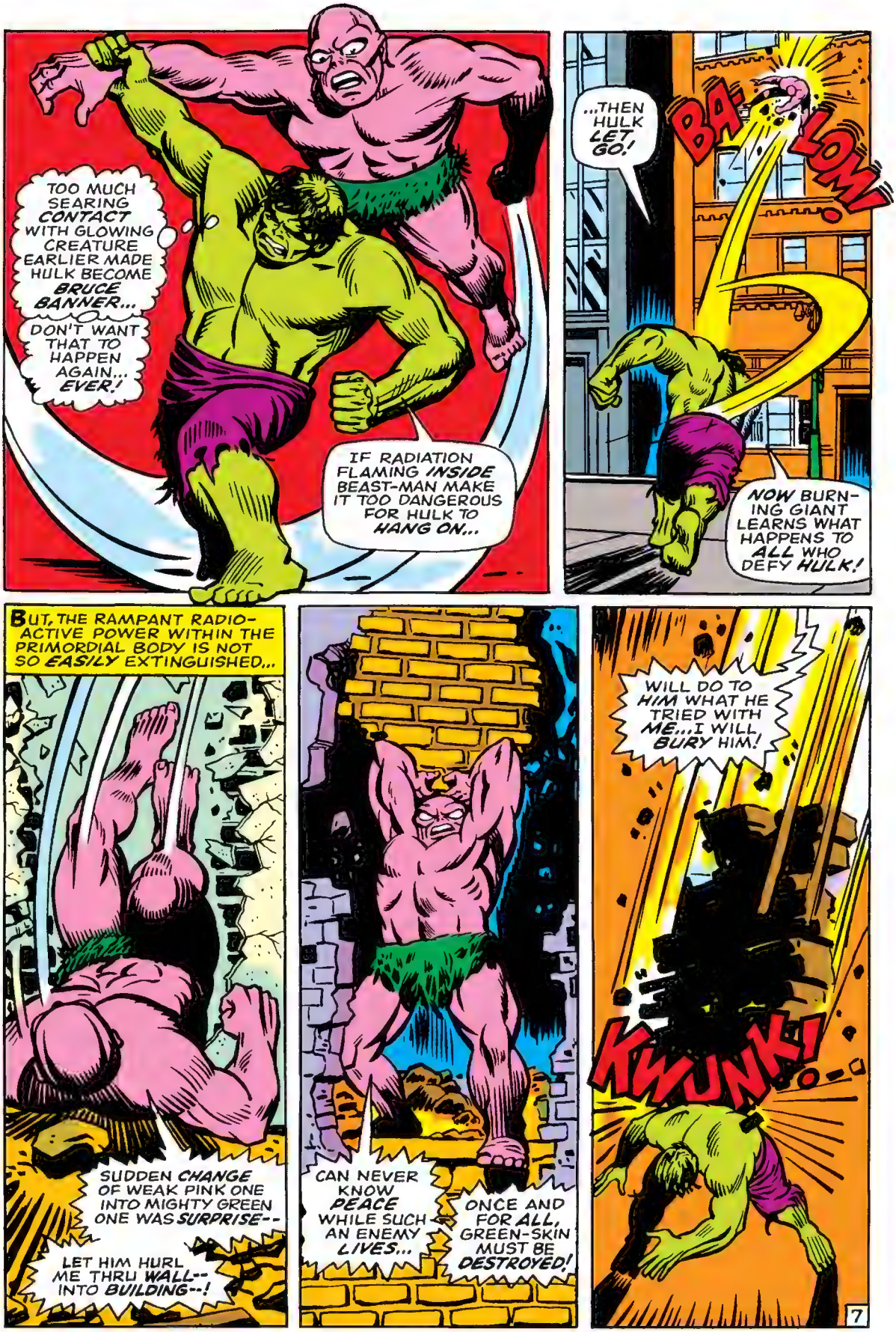

MERCIFULLY UNAWARE OF HIS DAUGHTER'S FATE, GENERAL ROSS CONTINUES COORDINATING THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE HULK...
I'VE HAD NO WORD FROM MAJOR TALBOT ON WHETHER OR NOT REED RICHARDS' WEAPON WORKED, FURY...
THEN IT'S MY BALL, RIGHT?
DON'T THINK I LIKE PUTTING IT IN THE HANDS OF YOU AND THOSE JAMES BOND REJECTS YOU RAMROD!
I WANTED THE HULK'S CAPTURE TO BE STRICTLY AN AIR FORCE SHOW!
PRETTY TESTY OLD BIRD...GUESS I'D FEEL THE SAME IF SOMEONE ELSE WAS RUNG IN ON MY OPERATION!
BUT NONE OF THIS SOUL-SEARCHIN' IS GONNA BAG US THE HULK!
AWRIGHT, LET'S HUSTLE! GAS-LAUNCHING CREWS INTO THE GLIDE-SAUCER... MOVE IT!
WHAT'S THE LATEST ON FLIGHT CONDITIONS OVER TARGET AREA?
WE'RE GETTING VERY VAGUE READINGS, NICK... LOT OF TURBULENCE FOULING THINGS UP!
BUT EVEN IF IT WAS A HURRICANE, HE KNOWS HE'D STILL DO THE JOB!
WHILE, BACK IN THE AREA UNDER QUESTION...
TALBOT! HOW IS SHE?
WEAK...BUT COMING AROUND! BEST THING WE CAN DO IS GET HER OUT OF HERE!
BRUCE... BRUCE, DARLING...MUST SAVE BRUCE...
YOU SHOULD ALL GET AWAY AND NOT LET ME SLOW YOU DOWN WITH THIS WOUNDED LEG!
IF ONLY SHE WAS SAYING MY NAME...IF JUST ONCE SHE'D FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT ME...!
THAT CREATURE WILL BE OUT FROM UNDER THE CAR IN NO TIME AND--
THEN, BANNER'S WORDS DIE IN THE SUDDEN DRYNESS OF HIS THROAT AS RADIATING HEAT SEARS HIS BACK, MAKING HIM TURN WITH HORROR TO FACE...
THE BEAST-MAN! WE'RE TOO LATE, BRUCE!
YOU CAN STILL MAKE IT, RICK! RUN! RUN!!
4

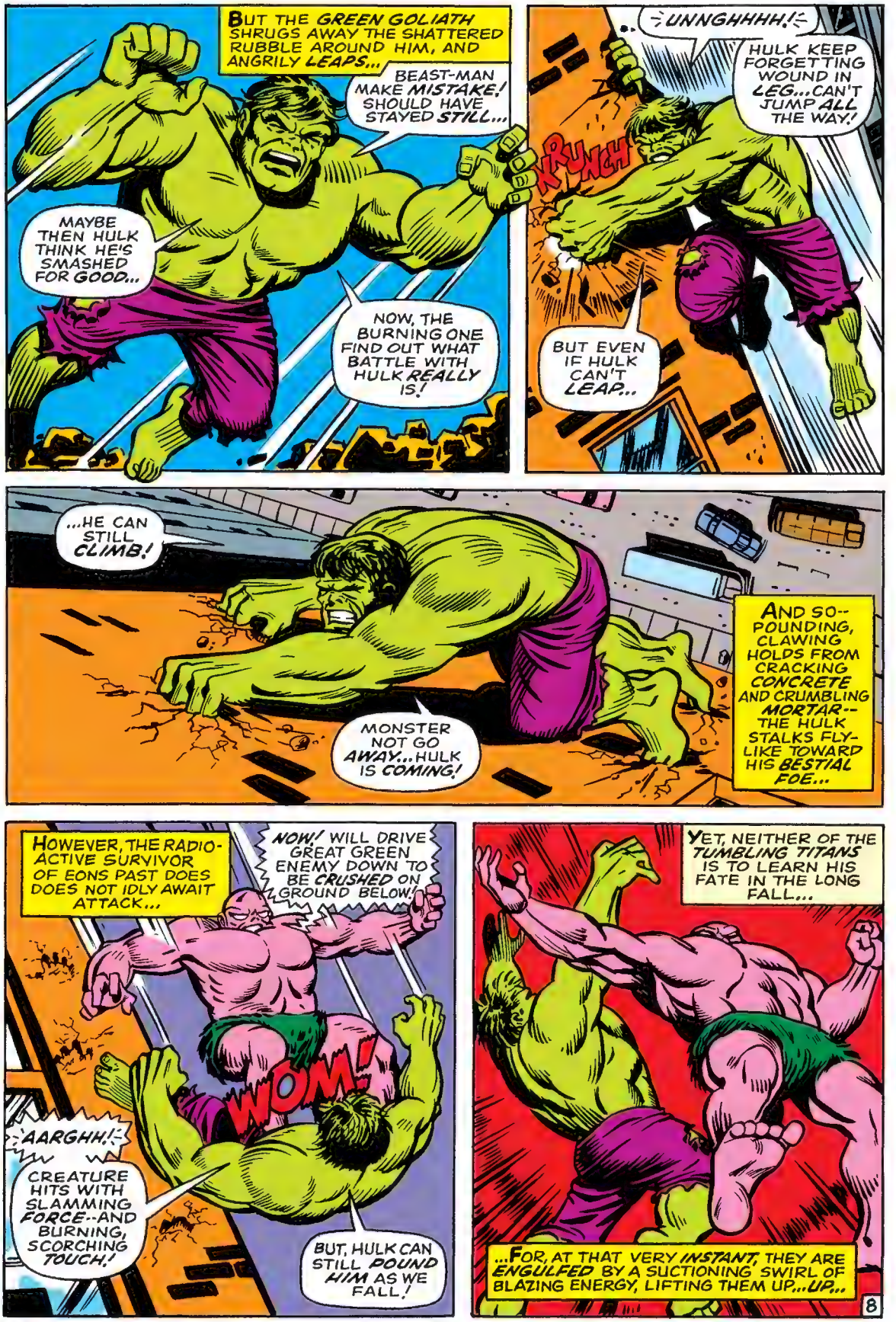

THEN, TWO BANDS OF WHITE-HOT STEEL REACH OUT TO ENCIRCLE BANNER'S WRISTS...
NOW... PINK-SKIN OR GREEN-SKIN...
YOU PAY FOR DARING TO ATTACK ME!
RICK, PLEASE! BEFORE THE RADIATION HITS YOU...GO!
NO, BRUCE... I CAN'T...
LISTEN TO HIM, SON! THE HELICOPTER WE CAME IN ISN'T FAR...
I MUST HAVE YOUR HELP TO GET BETTY IN AND AIRBORNE!


BUT AS THE INFLAMED GRIP SCORCHES THE YOUNG SCIENTIST WITH A RADIOACTIVE FLOOD, THE NEUTRALIZING EFFECT OF MR. FANTASTIC'S DEVICE IS GRADUALLY COUNTERED, UNTIL, ONCE AGAIN...
WHEN I FOUGHT THE BEAST-MAN AS THE HULK, HIS RADIATION TRANSFERRED ME BACK INTO BANNER...
BUT NOW... SINCE I WAS IN HUMAN FORM...HIS PRESENCE IS INSTEAD CHANGING ME INTO—
THE HULK!

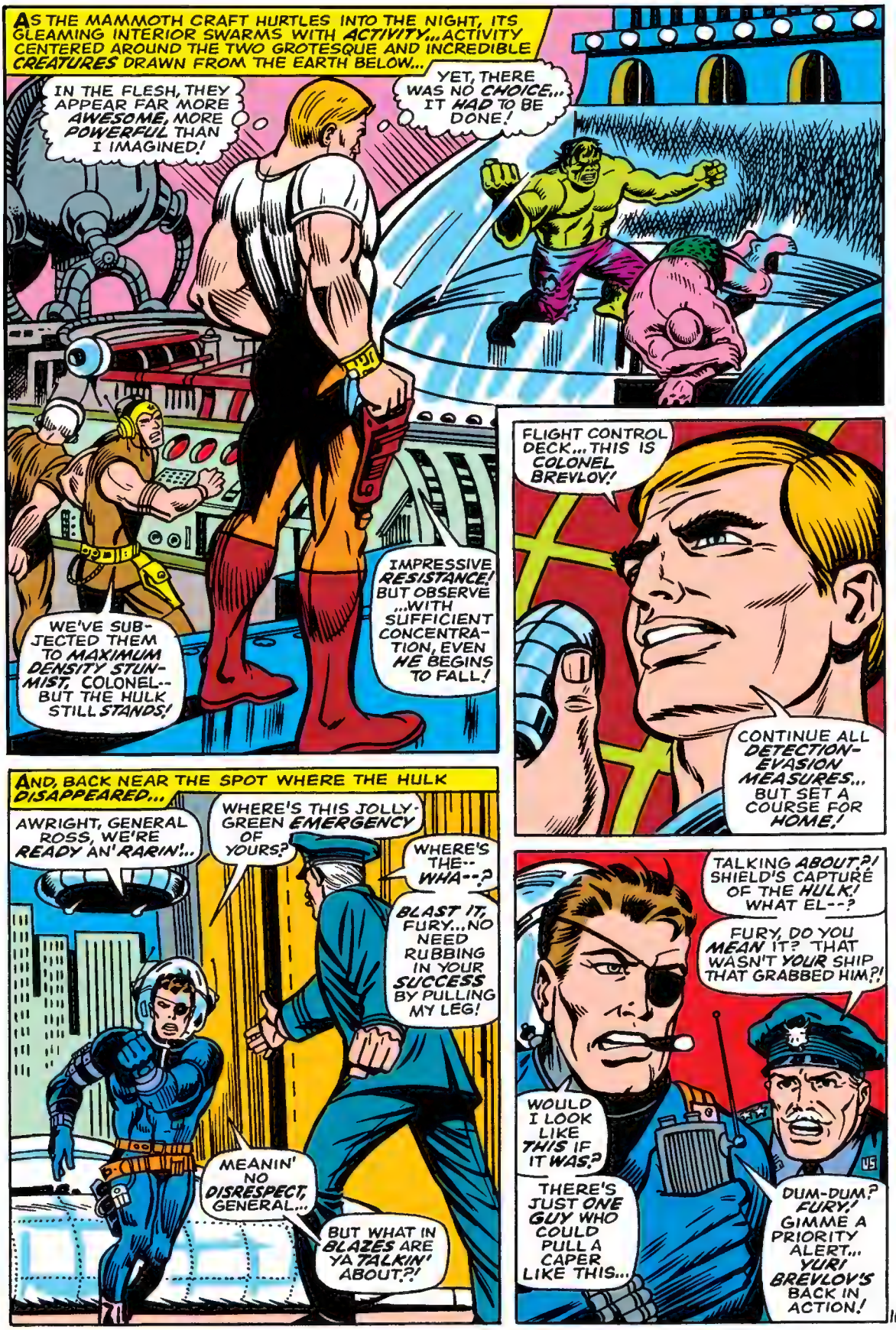

WOK!
AWWRRR!
MONSTER WITH BURNING TOUCH NOT HOLD HULK...
NOTHING HOLDS THE HULK!
HE WON'T NEED ME NOW...
WHEN HE'S LIKE THIS, THERE ISN'T ANYTHING ANYONE CAN DO FOR HIM...OR WITH HIM!

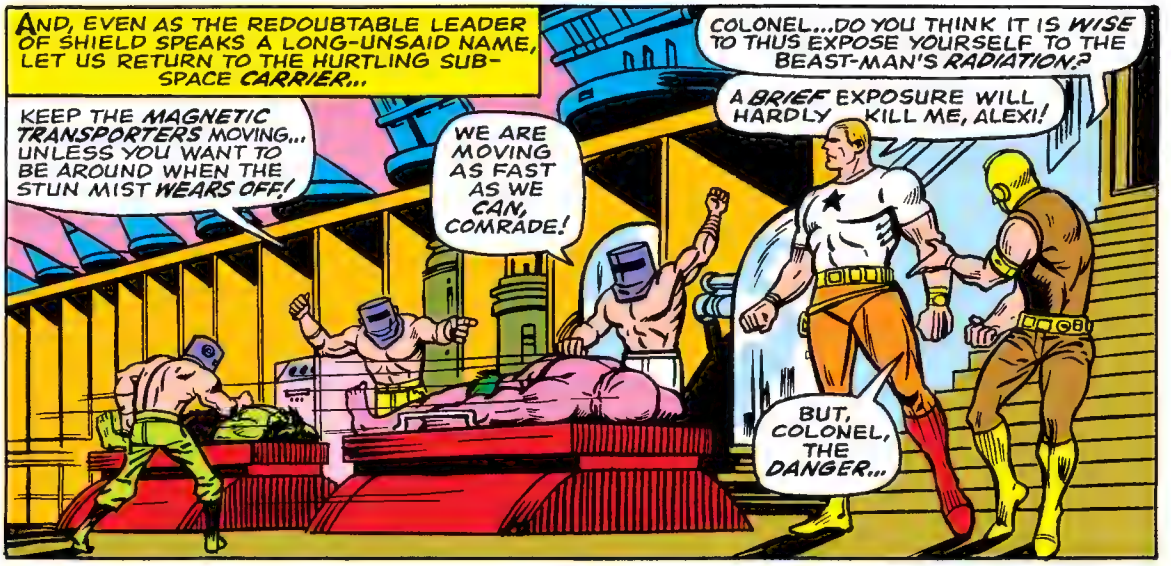

SO, BEAST-MAN...YOU'RE NOT FIGHTING WEAKLING BRUCE BANNER NOW...
ONE BLOW FROM HULK SHATTERS YOUR SHINY SKIN INTO GLASSY FRAGMENTS!
THAT NOISE-- SOUND OF ENGINE!
NO! THEY TAKE GIRL AWAY!
REMEMBER WHILE I WAS BANNER... SHE WAS HURT...
HULK SHOULD BE WITH GIRL...
SHE NEEDS HIS PROTECTION!
CAN'T LEAP AFTER HELICOPTER WITH INJURED LEG!
HULK LOSES GIRL...ONLY THING HE CARES ABOUT!
THIS YOUR FAULT, GLOWING CREATURE! YOU HELD ME WHILE THEY TOOK HER!
KNOM!
NOW, HULK IS MAD!
HULK NOT STOP TILL YOU'RE BASHED TO BITS OF CRYSTAL...
THEN SEE IF YOU CAN WELD YOURSELF TOGETHER LIKE BEFORE!
THERE THEY ARE! THE HULK AND THAT OTHER MONSTER...
BUT NOW THAT WE GOT 'EM, WHAT CAN WE DO WITH 'EM?!
NOTHIN'!
HEADQUARTERS JUST RADIOED US TO PULL BACK! SHIELD'S GONNA HANDLE THIS LITTLE CLAMBAKE!
THAT'S ONE ORDER YOU WON'T HAVE TO GIVE ME TWICE!
AAARGH!
HULK FORGET HOW MUCH IT BURNS WHEN HE GRASPS BEAST-MAN...!
6


TOO MUCH SEARING CONTACT WITH GLOWING CREATURE EARLIER MADE HULK BECOME BRUCE BANNER... DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN AGAIN... EVER!
IF RADIATION FLAMING INSIDE BEAST-MAN MAKE IT TOO DANGEROUS FOR HULK TO HANG ON...
...THEN HULK LET GO!
BA-LOM!
NOW BURNING GIANT LEARNS WHAT HAPPENS TO ALL WHO DEFY HULK!
BUT, THE RAMPANT RADIOACTIVE POWER WITHIN THE PRIMORDIAL BODY IS NOT SO EASILY EXTINGUISHED...
SUDDEN CHANGE OF WEAK PINK ONE INTO MIGHTY GREEN ONE WAS SURPRISE--
LET HIM HURL ME THRU WALL-- INTO BUILDING--!
CAN NEVER KNOW PEACE WHILE SUCH AN ENEMY LIVES...
ONCE AND FOR ALL, GREEN-SKIN MUST BE DESTROYED!
WILL DO TO HIM WHAT HE TRIED WITH ME...I WILL, BURY HIM!
KWUNK!
7

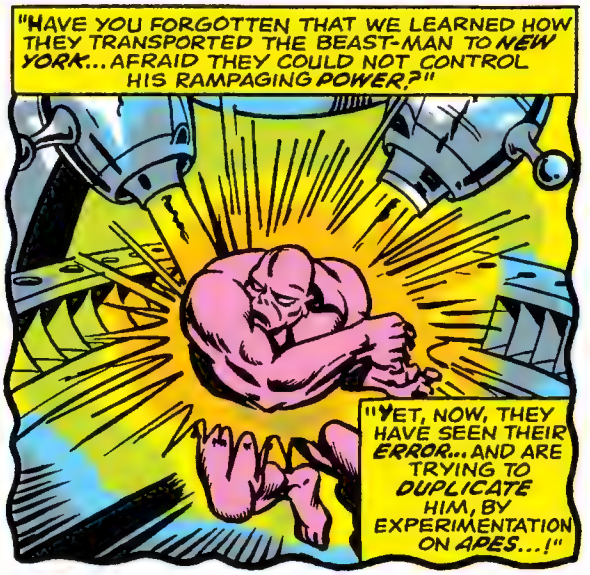

BUT THE GREEN GOLIATH SHRUGS AWAY THE SHATTERED RUBBLE AROUND HIM, AND ANGRILY LEAPS...
BEAST-MAN MAKE MISTAKE! SHOULD HAVE STAYED STILL...
MAYBE THEN HULK THINK HE'S SMASHED FOR GOOD...
NOW, THE BURNING ONE FIND OUT WHAT BATTLE WITH HULK REALLY IS!
-UNNGHHHH!-
HULK KEEP FORGETTING WOUND IN LEG...CAN'T JUMP ALL THE WAY!
KRUNCH
BUT EVEN IF HULK CAN'T LEAP...
...HE CAN STILL CLIMB!
MONSTER NOT GO AWAY...HULK IS COMING!
AND SO--POUNDING, CLAWING HOLDS FROM CRACKING CONCRETE AND CRUMBLING MORTAR--THE HULK STALKS FLY-LIKE TOWARD HIS BESTIAL FOE...
HOWEVER, THE RADIO-ACTIVE SURVIVOR OF EONS PAST DOES DOES NOT IDLY AWAIT ATTACK...
NOW! WILL DRIVE GREAT GREEN ENEMY DOWN TO BE CRUSHED ON GROUND BELOW!
WOM!
-AARGHH!-
CREATURE HITS WITH SLAMMING FORCE--AND BURNING, SCORCHING TOUCH!
BUT, HULK CAN STILL POUND HIM AS WE FALL!
YET, NEITHER OF THE TUMBLING TITANS IS TO LEARN HIS FATE IN THE LONG FALL...
...FOR, AT THAT VERY INSTANT, THEY ARE ENGULFED BY A SUCTIONING SWIRL OF BLAZING ENERGY, LIFTING THEM UP...UP...
8

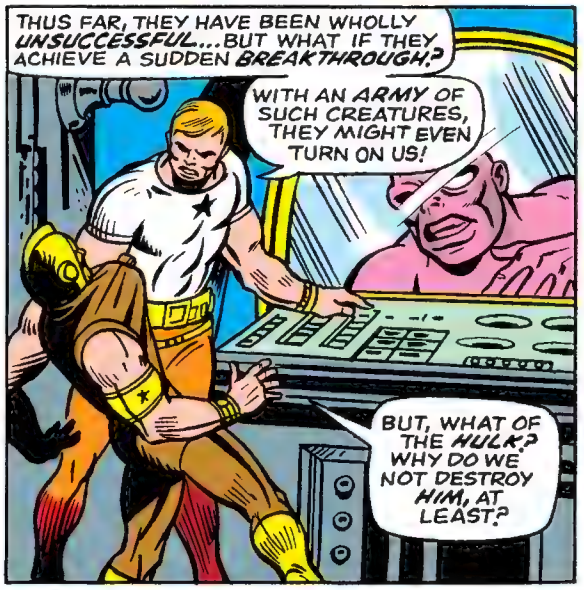
AND, TRIUMPHANTLY, ON THE SCENE IN THE STREET BELOW... GENERAL THUNDERBOLT ROSS...
BY HEAVEN, THEY DID IT!
MUCH AS I HATE HAVING ANYONE BUT ME BRING THAT BLASTED BRUTE TO BAY--
I'VE GOT TO GIVE FURY AND THOSE CLOAK'N' DAGGER CLOWNS FROM SHIELD CREDIT!
SO LONG AS THOSE MONSTERS ARE GONE, SIR, I GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO DID IT!
BEFORE THE PLEASED ON-LOOKERS, BOTH OF THE FORMIDABLE FORMS ARE LIFTED SKYWARD...
BUT, NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, SIR... WASN'T FURY SUPPOSED TO BE USING SOME KIND OF SAUCERS... AND AN EXPERIMENTAL GAS?
THIS LOOKS LIKE SHIELD'S HEADQUARTERS SHIP AND THAT VORTEX BEAM OF THEIRS!
OFFICER, I DON'T CARE IF THEY SPRAY HIM WITH INCENSE AND LEAD HIM AWAY SINGING HARE KRISHNA...
JUST SO THE HULK IS FINALLY OUT OF MY HAIR FOR GOOD!
IT WOULD SEEM GENERAL ROSS HAS BEEN GRANTED HIS WISH, AS THE WHIRLING, LUMINOUS FORCE DRAWS THE HULK AND HIS CRYSTALLINE OPPONENT INTO THE MECHANICAL COMPLEXITY OF THE BEAMING CHAMBER...
STRANGE LIGHT PULLS HULK INTO AIR--AGAINST HIS WILL!
NOTHING CAN DO THAT TO HULK!
BUT, BEAM KEEPS HULK OFF BALANCE... CAN'T SMASH MACHINERY!
AND, WHILE THE TWIN TITANS ARE HELD IN HELPLESS RAGE BY THE SWIRLING ENERGY, THE HUGE SHIP MOVES SUDDENLY WITH BLURRING SPEED... AND IS GONE IN SUCH A TWINKLING THAT ONE MIGHT THINK IT WAS NEVER THERE...

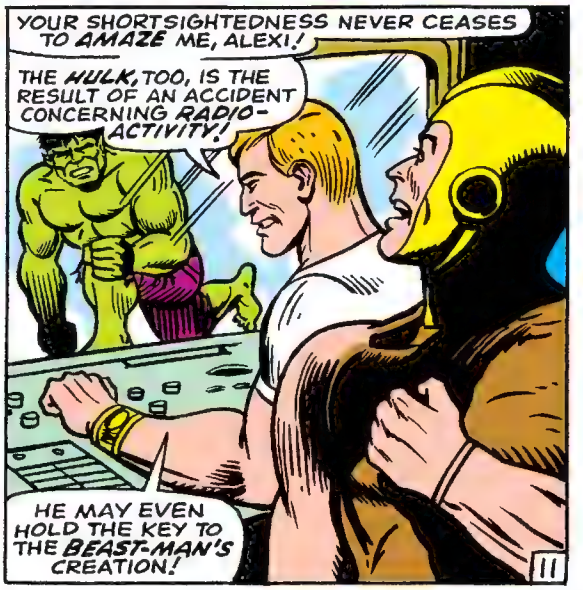

AS THE MAMMOTH CRAFT HURTLES INTO THE NIGHT, ITS GLEAMING INTERIOR SWARMS WITH ACTIVITY...ACTIVITY CENTERED AROUND THE TWO GROTESQUE AND INCREDIBLE CREATURES DRAWN FROM THE EARTH BELOW...
IN THE FLESH, THEY APPEAR FAR MORE AWESOME, MORE POWERFUL THAN I IMAGINED!
YET, THERE WAS NO CHOICE... IT HAD TO BE DONE!
WE'VE SUBJECTED THEM TO MAXIMUM DENSITY STUNMIST, COLONEL--BUT THE HULK STILL STANDS!
IMPRESSIVE RESISTANCE! BUT OBSERVE ...WITH SUFFICIENT CONCENTRATION, EVEN HE BEGINS TO FALL!
FLIGHT CONTROL DECK... THIS IS COLONEL BREVLOV!
CONTINUE ALL DETECTION-EVASION MEASURES... BUT SET A COURSE FOR HOME!
AND, BACK NEAR THE SPOT WHERE THE HULK DISAPPEARED...
AWRIGHT, GENERAL ROSS, WE'RE READY AN' RARIN'...
WHERE'S THIS JOLLY-GREEN EMERGENCY OF YOURS?
WHERE'S THE--WHA--?
BLAST IT, FURY...NO NEED RUBBING IN YOUR SUCCESS BY PULLING MY LEG!
MEANIN' NO DISRESPECT, GENERAL...
BUT WHAT IN BLAZES ARE YA TALKIN' ABOUT?!
TALKING ABOUT?! SHIELD'S CAPTURE OF THE HULK! WHAT EL--?
FURY, DO YOU MEAN IT? THAT WASN'T YOUR SHIP THAT GRABBED HIM?!
WOULD I LOOK LIKE THIS IF IT WAS?
THERE'S JUST ONE GUY WHO COULD PULL A CAPER LIKE THIS...
DUM-DUM? FURY! GIMME A PRIORITY ALERT... YURI BREVLOV'S BACK IN ACTION!

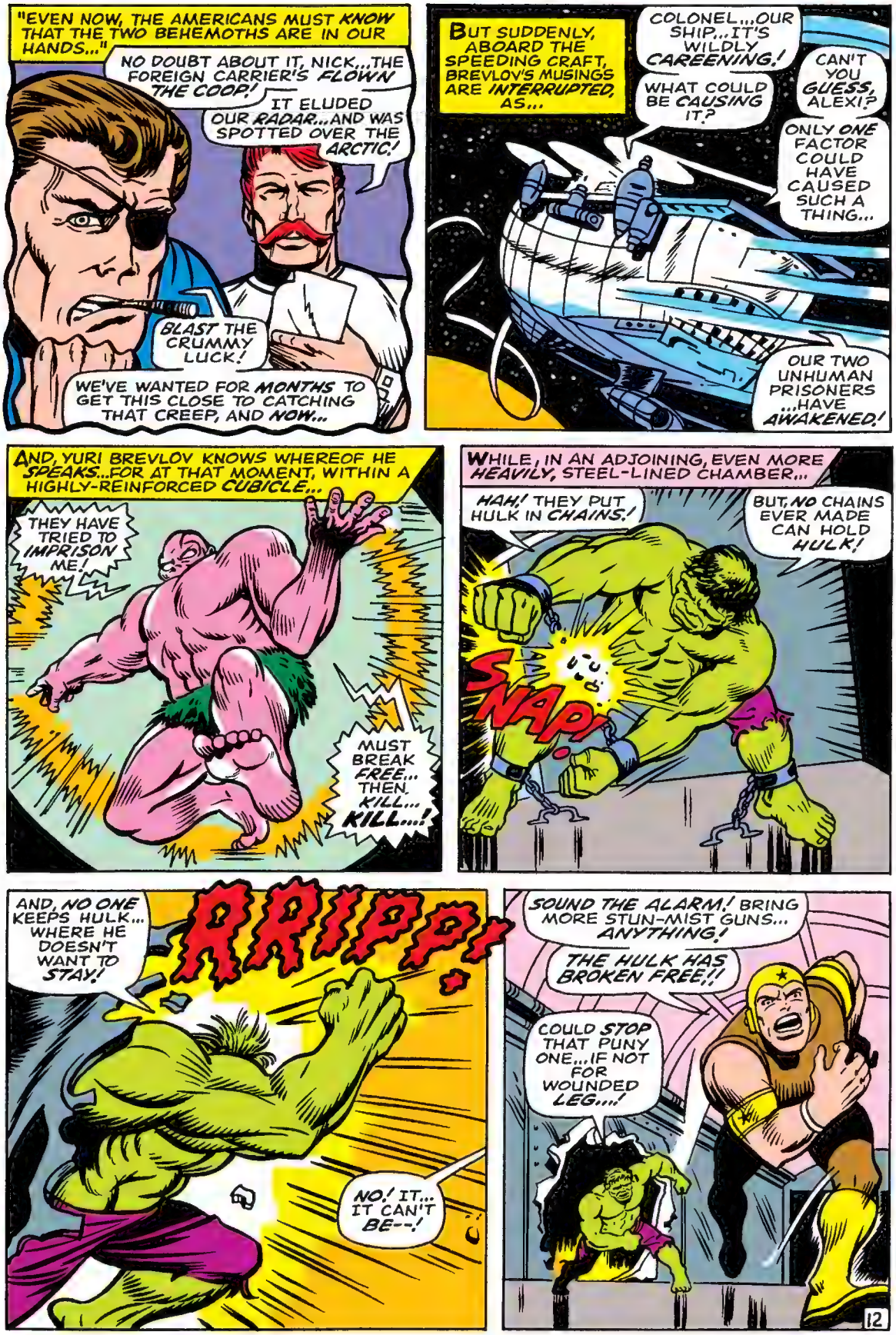

AND, EVEN AS THE REDOUBTABLE LEADER OF SHIELD SPEAKS A LONG-UNSAID NAME, LET US RETURN TO THE HURTLING SUB-SPACE CARRIER...
KEEP THE MAGNETIC TRANSPORTERS MOVING... UNLESS YOU WANT TO BE AROUND WHEN THE STUN MIST WEARS OFF!
WE ARE MOVING AS FAST AS WE CAN, COMRADE!
COLONEL...DO YOU THINK IT IS WISE TO THUS EXPOSE YOURSELF TO THE BEAST-MAN'S RADIATION?
A BRIEF EXPOSURE WILL HARDLY KILL ME, ALEX!
BUT, COLONEL, THE DANGER...

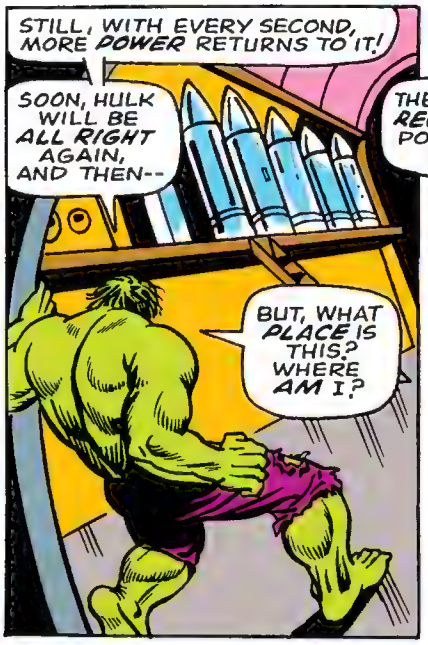
--IS HARDLY AS GREAT AS YOUR COWERING FEAR, BABBLER! OTHERWISE, I WOULD NOT BE SO FOOLHARDY AS TO APPROACH THEM!
YET, YOU TREMBLE ALMOST AS FEARFULLY AS OUR ACCURSED ORIENTAL COMRADES!
I...I DO NOT UNDERSTAND, COLONEL...!

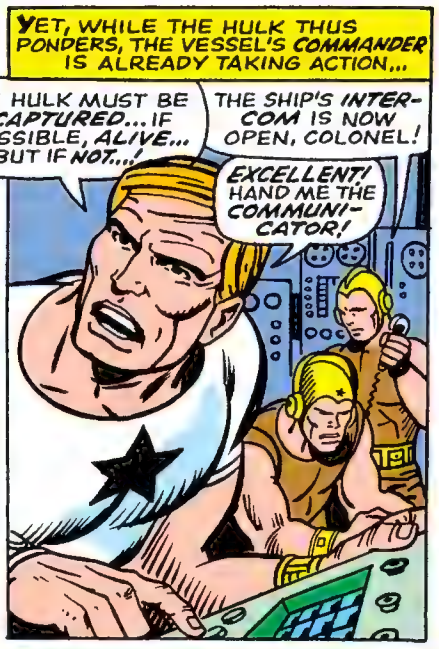

"HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT WE LEARNED HOW THEY TRANSPORTED THE BEAST-MAN TO NEW YORK... AFRAID THEY COULD NOT CONTROL HIS RAMPAGING POWER?"
"YET, NOW, THEY HAVE SEEN THEIR ERROR... AND ARE TRYING TO DUPLICATE HIM, BY EXPERIMENTATION ON APES...!"

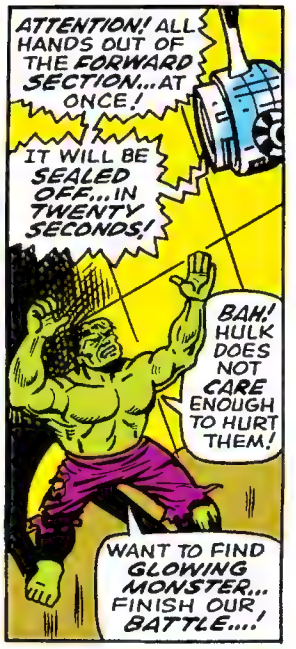

THUS FAR, THEY HAVE BEEN WHOLLY UNSUCCESSFUL...BUT WHAT IF THEY ACHIEVE A SUDDEN BREAKTHROUGH?
WITH AN ARMY OF SUCH CREATURES, THEY MIGHT EVEN TURN ON US!
BUT, WHAT OF THE HULK? WHY DO WE NOT DESTROY HIM, AT LEAST?

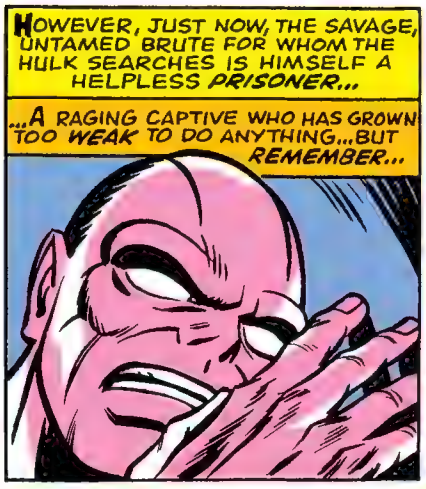

YOUR SHORTSIGHTEDNESS NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME, ALEX!
THE HULK, TOO, IS THE RESULT OF AN ACCIDENT CONCERNING RADIO-ACTIVITY!
HE MAY EVEN HOLD THE KEY TO THE BEAST-MAN'S CREATION!

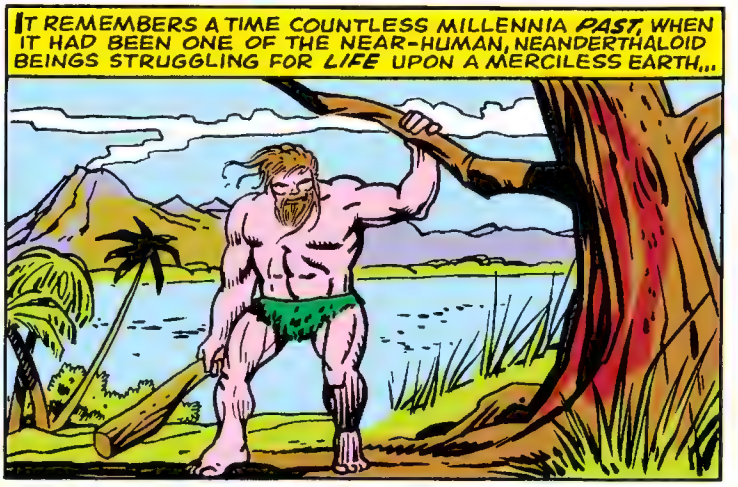

"EVEN NOW, THE AMERICANS MUST KNOW THAT THE TWO BEHEMOTHS ARE IN OUR HANDS..."
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, NICK...THE FOREIGN CARRIER'S FLOWN THE COOP!
IT ELUDED OUR RADAR...AND WAS SPOTTED OVER THE ARCTIC!
BLAST THE CRUMMY LUCK!
WE'VE WANTED FOR MONTHS TO GET THIS CLOSE TO CATCHING THAT CREEP, AND NOW...
BUT SUDDENLY, ABOARD THE SPEEDING CRAFT, BREVLOV'S MUSINGS ARE INTERRUPTED, AS...
COLONEL...OUR SHIP...IT'S WILDLY CAREENING!
WHAT COULD BE CAUSING IT?
CAN'T YOU GUESS, ALEX!?
ONLY ONE FACTOR COULD HAVE CAUSED SUCH A THING...
OUR TWO UNHUMAN PRISONERS ...HAVE AWAKENED!
AND, YURI BREVLOV KNOWS WHEREOF HE SPEAKS...FOR AT THAT MOMENT, WITHIN A HIGHLY-REINFORCED CUBICLE...
THEY HAVE TRIED TO IMPRISON ME!
MUST BREAK FREE... THEN, KILL... KILL...!
WHILE, IN AN ADJOINING, EVEN MORE HEAVILY, STEEL-LINED CHAMBER...
HAH! THEY PUT HULK IN CHAINS!
BUT, NO CHAINS EVER MADE CAN HOLD HULK!
SNAP!
AND, NO ONE KEEPS HULK... WHERE HE DOESN'T WANT TO STAY!
RRIPP!
NO! IT... IT CAN'T BE--!
SOUND THE ALARM! BRING MORE STUN-MIST GUNS... ANYTHING!
THE HULK HAS BROKEN FREE!!
COULD STOP THAT PUNY ONE...IF NOT FOR WOUNDED LEG...!
12

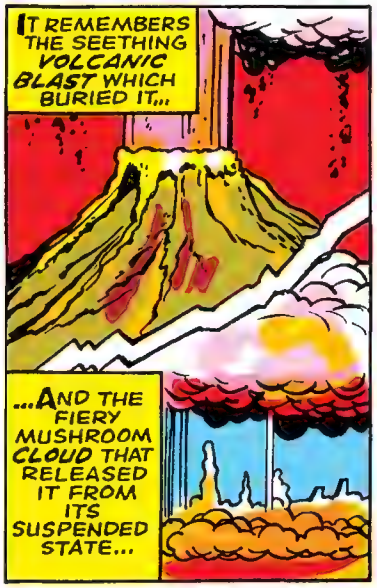

STILL, WITH EVERY SECOND, MORE POWER RETURNS TO IT!
SOON, HULK WILL BE ALL RIGHT AGAIN, AND THEN--
BUT, WHAT PLACE IS THIS? WHERE AM I?


YET, WHILE THE HULK THUS PONDERS, THE VESSEL'S COMMANDER IS ALREADY TAKING ACTION...
THE HULK MUST BE RECAPTURED... IF POSSIBLE, ALIVE... BUT IF NOT...!
THE SHIP'S INTER-COM IS NOW OPEN, COLONEL!
EXCELLENT! HAND ME THE COMMUNI-CATOR!


ATTENTION! ALL HANDS OUT OF THE FORWARD SECTION... AT ONCE!
IT WILL BE SEALED OFF... IN TWENTY SECONDS!
BAH! HULK DOES NOT CARE ENOUGH TO HURT THEM!
WANT TO FIND GLOWING MONSTER... FINISH OUR BATTLE...!

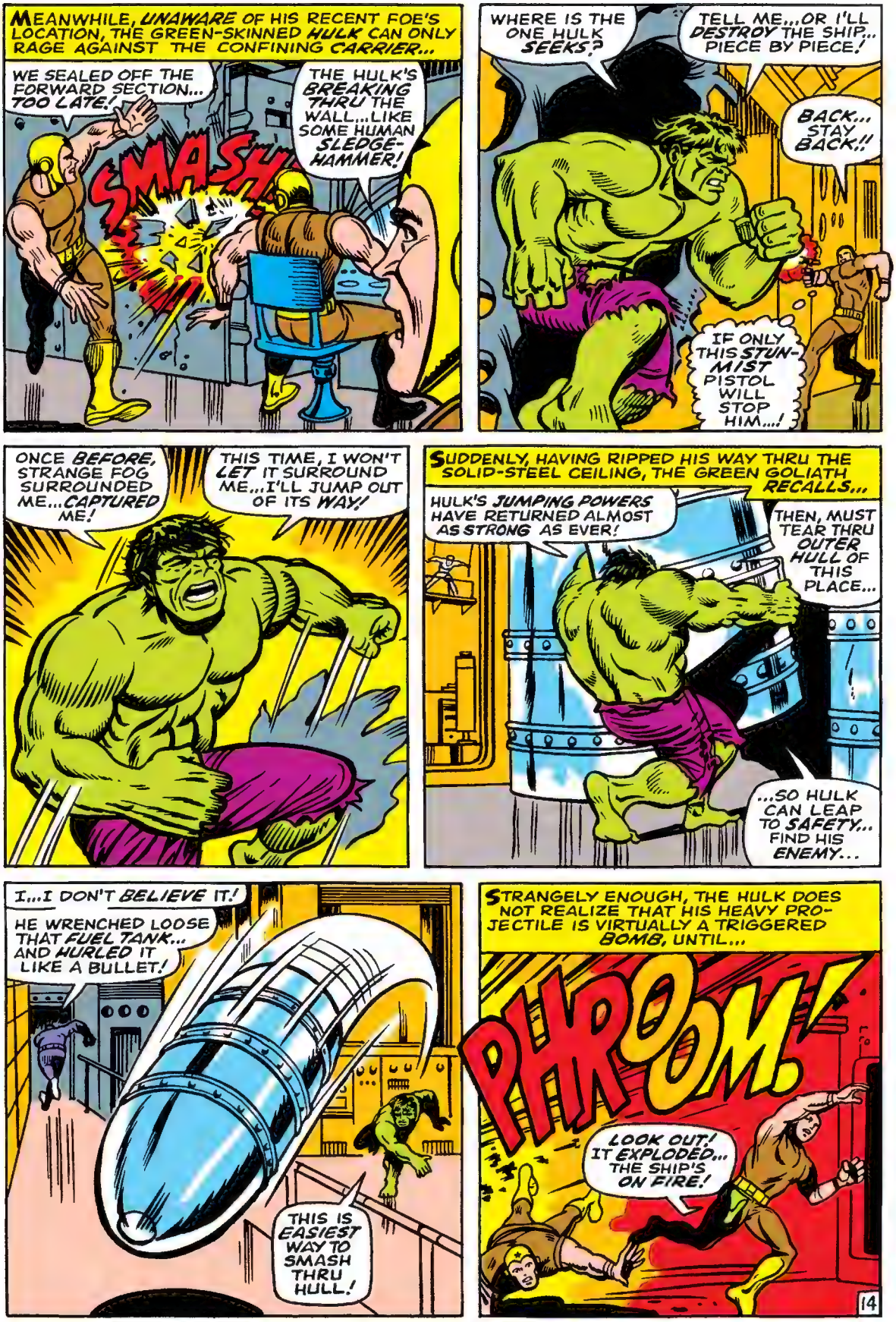

HOWEVER, JUST NOW, THE SAVAGE, UNTAMED BRUTE FOR WHOM THE HULK SEARCHES IS HIMSELF A HELPLESS PRISONER...
...A RAGING CAPTIVE WHO HAS GROWN TOO WEAK TO DO ANYTHING... BUT REMEMBER...

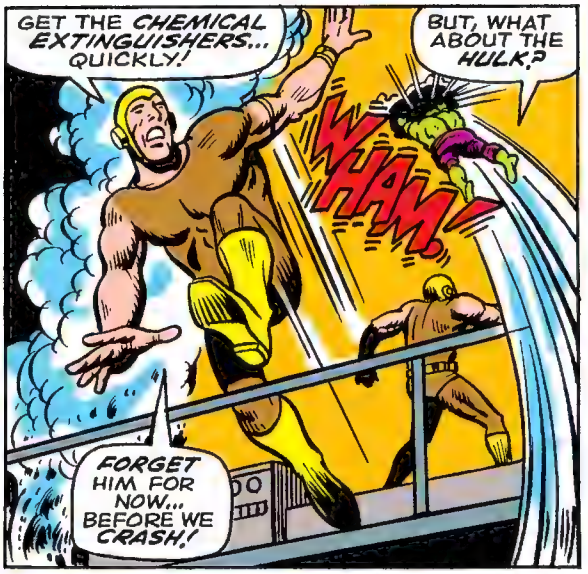

IT REMEMBERS A TIME COUNTLESS MILLENNIA PAST, WHEN IT HAD BEEN ONE OF THE NEAR-HUMAN, NEANDERTHALOID BEINGS STRUGGLING FOR LIFE UPON A MERCILESS EARTH...

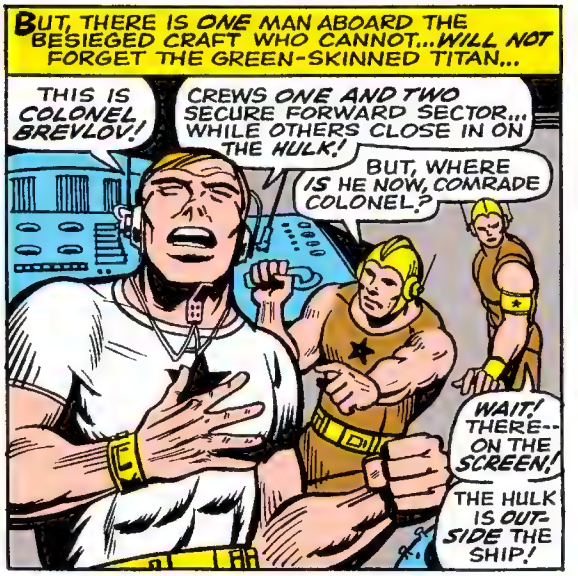

IT REMEMBERS THE SEETHING VOLCANIC BLAST WHICH BURIED IT...
...AND THE FIERY MUSHROOM CLOUD THAT RELEASED IT FROM ITS SUSPENDED STATE...

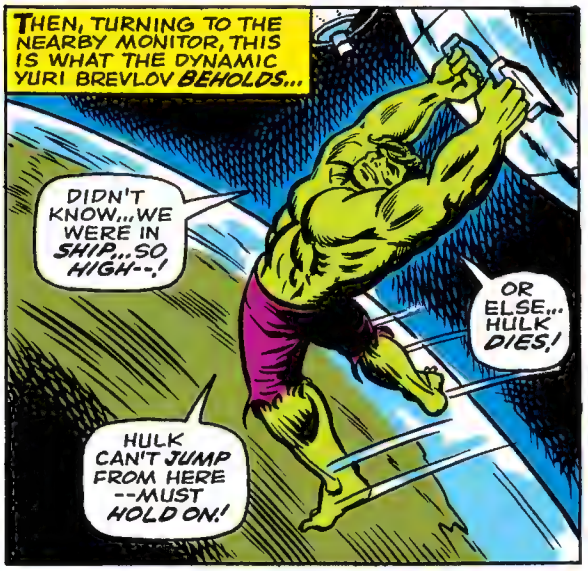
BUT, IN BETWEEN, IT REMEMBERS THE DISMAL, ENDLESS DARKNESS WHICH HAD ENCOMPASSED IT...

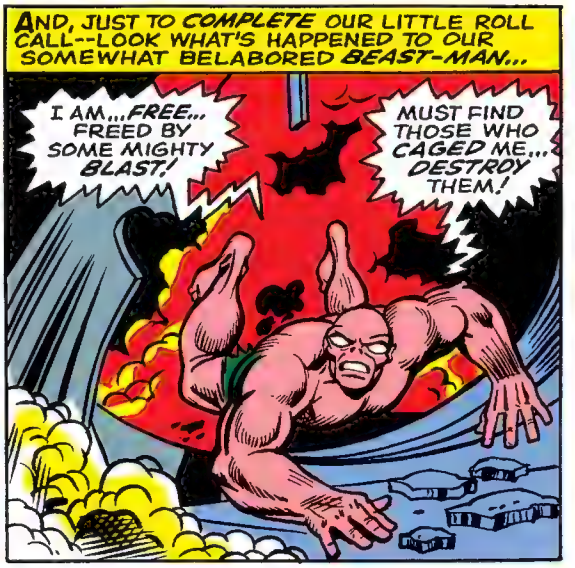
...AND WHICH NOW ENSHROUDS IT ONCE MORE WITHIN A GRIM, GREY WALL OF UNBEARABLE SILENCE...


MEANWHILE, UNAWARE OF HIS RECENT FOE'S LOCATION, THE GREEN-SKINNED HULK CAN ONLY RAGE AGAINST THE CONFINING CARRIER...
WE SEALED OFF THE FORWARD SECTION... TOO LATE!
THE HULK'S BREAKING THRU THE WALL...LIKE SOME HUMAN SLEDGE-HAMMER!
SMASH
WHERE IS THE ONE HULK SEEKS?
TELL ME...OR I'LL DESTROY THE SHIP... PIECE BY PIECE!
BACK... STAY BACK!!
IF ONLY THIS STUN-MIST PISTOL WILL STOP HIM...!
ONCE BEFORE, STRANGE FOG SURROUNDED ME...CAPTURED ME!
THIS TIME, I WON'T LET IT SURROUND ME...I'LL JUMP OUT OF ITS WAY!
SUDDENLY, HAVING RIPPED HIS WAY THRU THE SOLID-STEEL CEILING, THE GREEN GOLIATH RECALLS...
HULK'S JUMPING POWERS HAVE RETURNED ALMOST AS STRONG AS EVER!
THEN, MUST TEAR THRU OUTER HULL OF THIS PLACE...
...SO HULK CAN LEAP TO SAFETY... FIND HIS ENEMY...
I...I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
HE WRENCHED LOOSE THAT FUEL TANK... AND HURLED IT LIKE A BULLET!
THIS IS EASIEST WAY TO SMASH THRU HULL!
STRANGELY ENOUGH, THE HULK DOES NOT REALIZE THAT HIS HEAVY PROJECTILE IS VIRTUALLY A TRIGGERED BOMB, UNTIL...
PHROOM!
LOOK OUT! IT EXPLODED... THE SHIP'S ON FIRE!
14


GET THE CHEMICAL EXTINGUISHERS... QUICKLY!
BUT, WHAT ABOUT THE HULK?
WHAM!
FORGET HIM FOR NOW... BEFORE WE CRASH!


BUT, THERE IS ONE MAN ABOARD THE BESIEGED CRAFT WHO CANNOT...WILL NOT FORGET THE GREEN-SKINNED TITAN...
THIS IS COLONEL BREVLOV!
CREWS ONE AND TWO SECURE FORWARD SECTOR... WHILE OTHERS CLOSE IN ON THE HULK!
BUT, WHERE IS HE NOW, COMRADE COLONEL?
WAIT! THERE-- ON THE SCREEN!
THE HULK IS OUTSIDE THE SHIP!

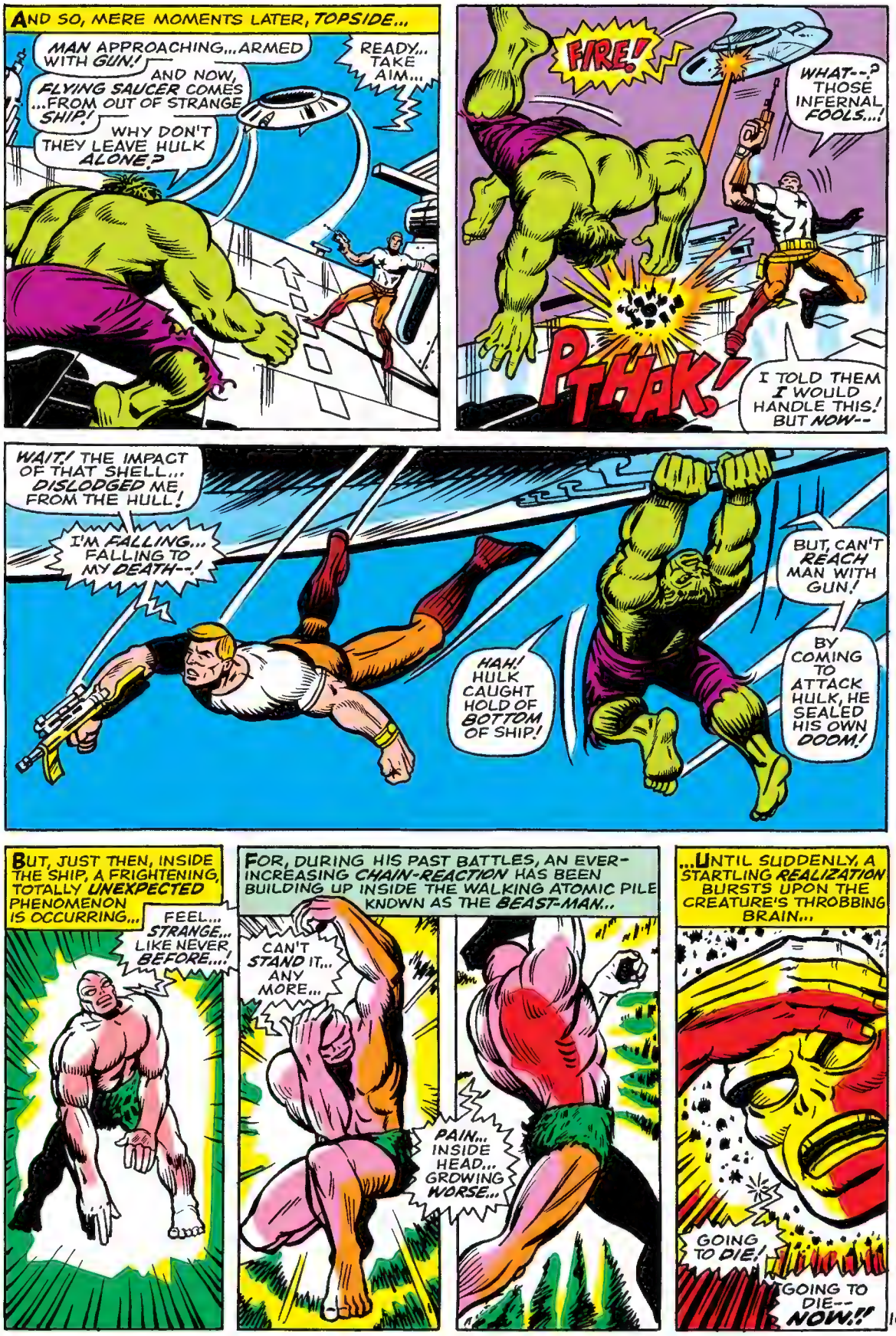

THEN, TURNING TO THE NEARBY MONITOR, THIS IS WHAT THE DYNAMIC YURI BREVLOV BEHOLDS...
DIDN'T KNOW...WE WERE IN SHIP...SO HIGH--!
OR ELSE... HULK DIES!
HULK CAN'T JUMP FROM HERE --MUST HOLD ON!


AND, JUST TO COMPLETE OUR LITTLE ROLL CALL--LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENED TO OUR SOMEWHAT BELABORED BEAST-MAN...
I AM...FREE... FREED BY SOME MIGHTY BLAST!
MUST FIND THOSE WHO CAGED ME... DESTROY THEM!

MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, THE VESSEL'S CREW HAVE OTHER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT...
THESE MAGNETIC SOLES WILL ENABLE ME TO REACH THE HULK ...OUT THERE!
BUT--WHY YOU, COLONEL? WHY NOT ANOTHER?
THE HULK IS MY RESPONSIBILITY, ALEX!--

I SHALL BRING HIM BACK WITH ME--
--OR I MYSELF SHALL NOT RETURN!

THEN, AS THE COLONEL EXITS THRU AN OPEN HATCH...
OUR LEADER IS BRAVE BEYOND WORDS!
BRAVE, PERHAPS ...BUT ALSO FOOL-HARDY!
NO MATTER WHAT HIS ORDERS...WE MUST HELP HIM--!


AND SO, MERE MOMENTS LATER, TOPSIDE...
MAN APPROACHING...ARMED WITH GUN!
AND NOW, FLYING SAUCER COMES ...FROM OUT OF STRANGE SHIP!
WHY DON'T THEY LEAVE HULK ALONE?
READY... TAKE AIM...
FIRE!
WHAT--? THOSE INFERNAL FOOLS...!
PTHAK!
I TOLD THEM I WOULD HANDLE THIS! BUT NOW--
WAIT! THE IMPACT OF THAT SHELL... DISLODGED ME FROM THE HULL!
I'M FALLING... FALLING TO MY DEATH--!
HAH! HULK CAUGHT HOLD OF BOTTOM OF SHIP!
BUT, CAN'T REACH MAN WITH GUN!
BY COMING TO ATTACK HULK, HE SEALED HIS OWN DOOM!
BUT, JUST THEN, INSIDE THE SHIP, A FRIGHTENING, TOTALLY UNEXPECTED PHENOMENON IS OCCURRING...
FEEL... STRANGE... LIKE NEVER BEFORE...!
FOR, DURING HIS PAST BATTLES, AN EVER-INCREASING CHAIN-REACTION HAS BEEN BUILDING UP INSIDE THE WALKING ATOMIC PILE KNOWN AS THE BEAST-MAN...
CAN'T STAND IT... ANY MORE...
PAIN... INSIDE HEAD... GROWING WORSE...
...UNTIL SUDDENLY, A STARTLING REALIZATION BURSTS UPON THE CREATURE'S THROBBING BRAIN...
GOING TO DIE!
GOING TO DIE-- NOW!!

AND, THE NEXT INSTANT, HE DOES--AMIDST A MIND-BLASTING EXPLOSION WHICH SEEMS TO REND THE NIGHT SKY...
PHROOM!
BUT ASTOUNDINGLY, IT IS JUST THAT WHICH SAVES THE LIFE OF COLONEL BREVLOV...
A SECTION OF THE HULL... WAS HURLED AGAINST MY MAGNETIC SANDALS!
THAT WILL NOT HELP US...
...IF WE STRIKE THE GROUND... SO FAR BELOW...!
HOWEVER, THE HULK HAS FORGOTTEN THE NEARBY SAUCER...
OUR HELI-CARRIER IS DOOMED!
BUT, WE MUST SAVE OUR COLONEL FROM A SIMILAR FATE!
YET HOW CAN WE... WITHOUT ALSO SAVING THE HULK?
THEN, WE SHALL SAVE THAT MINDLESS MONSTER AS WELL, WITH OUR ANTI-GRAVITY GRAPPLING RAY!
WHEN THE COLONEL IS ABOARD... THE HULK WILL DIE!
BUT, EVEN THE BESTIAL BRAIN THAT ONCE WAS BRUCE BANNER'S CAN SENSE IMMINENT DESTRUCTION, AND SO, SUDDENLY...
WE HAVE STOPPED FALLING...HELD BY THAT RAY!
BUT, YOU WILL FALL AGAIN... IF THEY FIRE AT HULK!
THEY WON'T FIRE! I... SWEAR IT!
WORDS MEAN NOTHING TO ME! THE HULK UNDERSTANDS ONLY ACTIONS!
SO, HULK WILL RETURN YOU, PUNY HUMAN, TO THOSE WHO SERVE YOU...
COLONEL BREVLOV'S SAFE!
NOW, IF WE CAN ONLY--
KLAMP!
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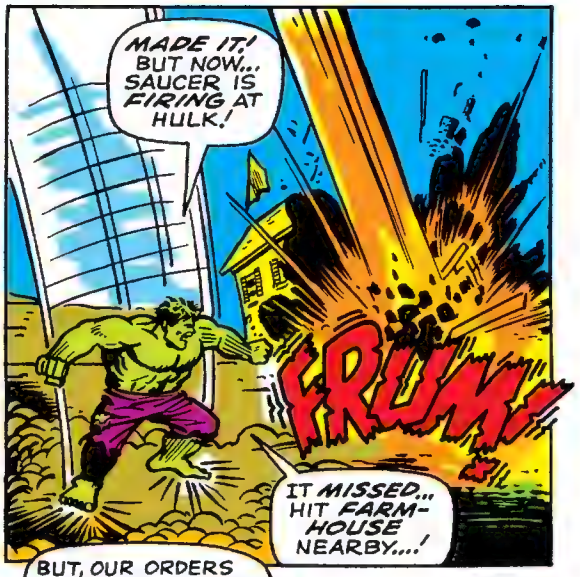
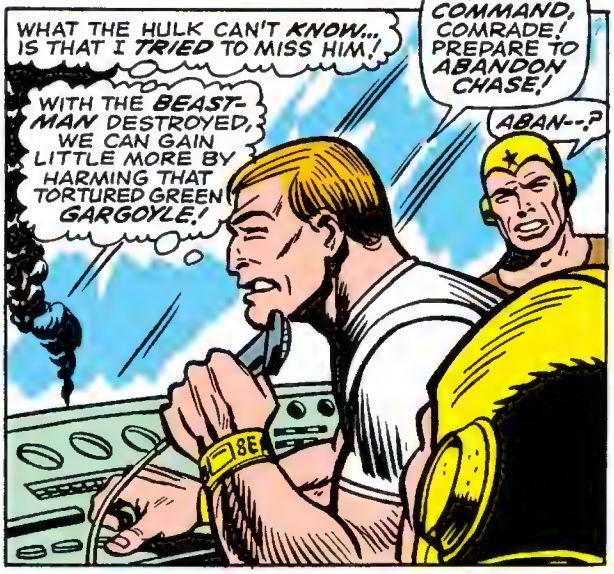
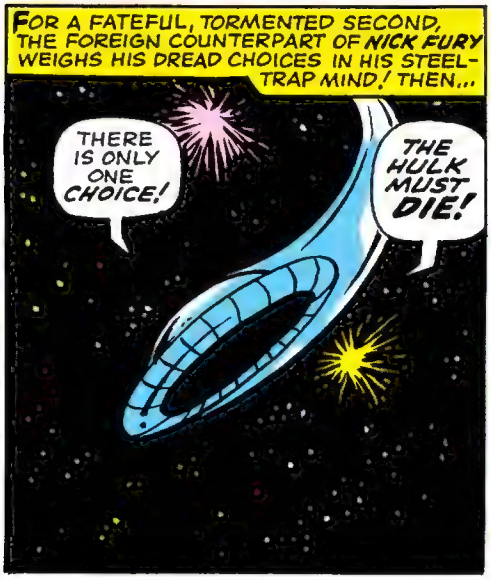
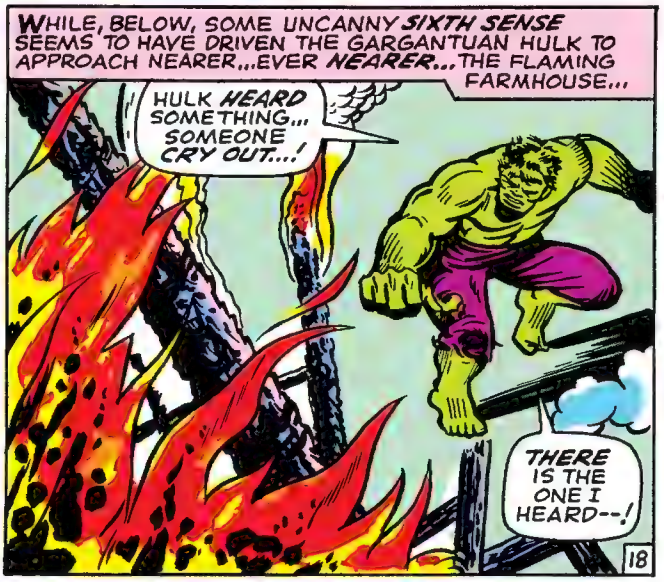
JUST THEN, AS THE ANXIOUS CREWMAN IS IN MID-SENTENCE...
HE JUMPED--!
SAUCER HAD DIPPED DOWN... CLOSER TO THE GROUND!
HULK CAN SURVIVE THE FALL NOW...!


MADE IT! BUT NOW... SAUCER IS FIRING AT HULK!
FRUM!
IT MISSED... HIT FARM-HOUSE NEARBY...!

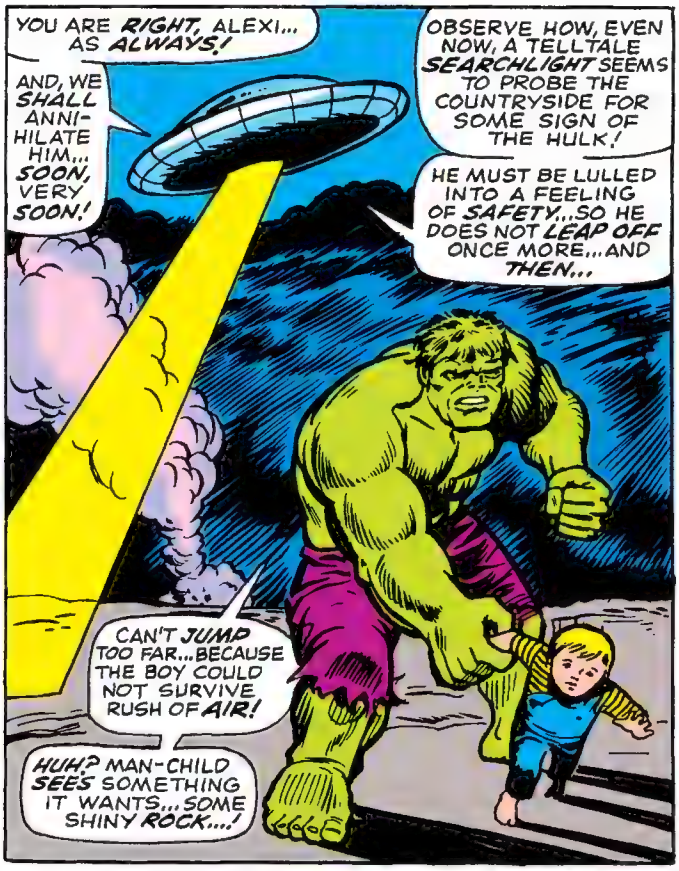

WHAT THE HULK CAN'T KNOW... IS THAT I TRIED TO MISS HIM!
GIVE THE COMMAND, COMRADE! PREPARE TO ABANDON CHASE!
WITH THE BEAST-MAN DESTROYED, WE CAN GAIN LITTLE MORE BY HARMING THAT TORTURED GREEN GARGOYLE!
ABAN--?

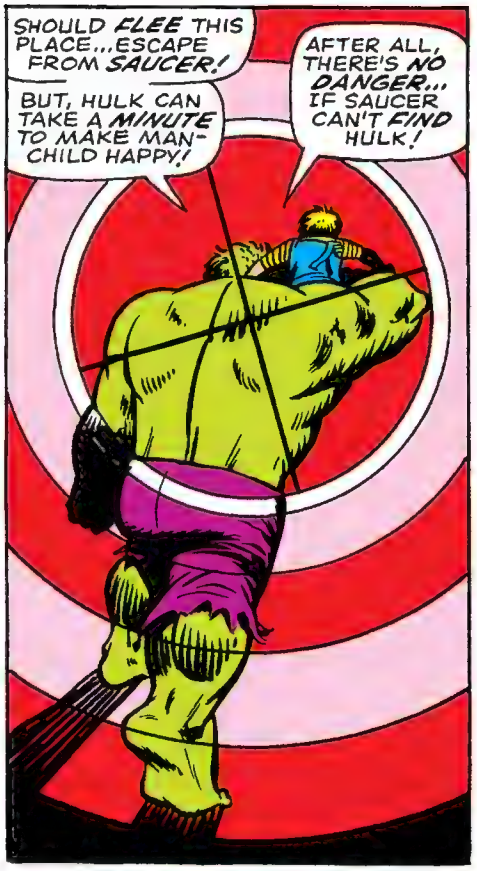
BUT, OUR ORDERS WERE TO SEE THOSE TWO MONSTERS CAPTURED...OR OBLITERATED!
HE'S RIGHT! I WOULD SOON HAVE A MUTINY ON MY HANDS!
TO SPARE ONE OF THEM NOW WOULD BE...AN ACT OF TREASON!
I MUST DECIDE WHAT TO DO ...QUICKLY!

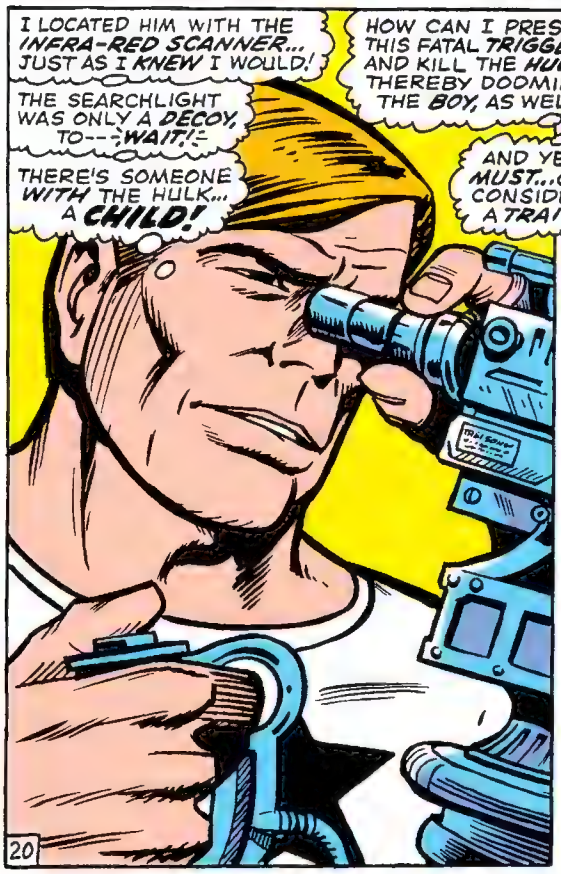

FOR A FATEFUL, TORMENTED SECOND, THE FOREIGN COUNTERPART OF NICK FURY WEIGHS HIS DREAD CHOICES IN HIS STEEL-TRAP MIND! THEN...
THERE IS ONLY ONE CHOICE!
THE HULK MUST DIE!


WHILE, BELOW, SOME UNCANNY SIXTH SENSE SEEMS TO HAVE DRIVEN THE GARGANTUAN HULK TO APPROACH NEARER...EVER NEARER... THE FLAMING FARMHOUSE...
HULK HEARD SOMETHING... SOMEONE CRY OUT...!
THERE IS THE ONE I HEARD--!

IT'S...A MAN-CHILD! ONE OF THE RACE THAT HOUNDS THE HULK...!
HE LOOKS UP AT HULK...SEES HULK!
BUT...HE ISN'T AFRAID!!
MAN-CHILD'S PARENTS MUST HAVE FLED WHEN SAUCER FIRED, AND--
WAIT! HULK JUST REMEMBERED THE SAUCER!
IT'S SWOOPING LOW EVEN NOW ...TO ATTACK!
THIS IS HULK'S FIGHT...NOT MAN-CHILD'S!
MUST LEAVE HIM... OR HE'LL BE KILLED WHEN IT FIRES!
YET, HE'S SO HELPLESS ...SO ALONE!*
*EVEN IF THE YOUNGSTER SPOKE ALOUD, OUR GREEN-SKINNED GOLEM COULDN'T UNDERSTAND HIS LANGUAGE...BUT THE EYES OF CHILDREN SPEAK A TONGUE BEYOND LANGUAGE!--STAN.
YES...HE'S ALONE... ALONE, JUST LIKE THE HULK!
STILL, WHY SHOULD I WORRY ABOUT HIM...PUNIEST OF THE RACE THAT TORMENTS ME!
PITY IS FOR HUMANS... NOT FOR HULK!
BUT, THE NEXT SECOND...
...THE PLUMMETING SAUCER-SHIP FIRES A LETHAL BLAST ...AND THE CREATURE WHO WAS ONCE BRUCE BANNER LEAPS OUT OF HARM'S WAY...
ZKAK!
...INSTINCTIVELY CARRYING THE BOY TO SAFETY WITH HIM!
WE MISSED... BUT, I HAVE A PLAN WHICH CAN HARDLY FAIL!
YET, WHAT WAS THE SMALL BUNDLE HE CARRIED...SO TENDERLY IN HIS MASSIVE ARMS?
WHAT DOES IT MATTER, MY COLONEL?
ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT WE DESTROY THE HULK ...AS WE WERE COMMANDED!
19


YOU ARE RIGHT, ALEXI... AS ALWAYS!
AND, WE SHALL ANNI-HILATE HIM... SOON, VERY SOON!
OBSERVE HOW, EVEN NOW, A TELLTALE SEARCHLIGHT SEEMS TO PROBE THE COUNTRYSIDE FOR SOME SIGN OF THE HULK!
HE MUST BE LULLED INTO A FEELING OF SAFETY...SO HE DOES NOT LEAP OFF ONCE MORE...AND THEN...
CAN'T JUMP TOO FAR...BECAUSE THE BOY COULD NOT SURVIVE RUSH OF AIR!
HUH? MAN-CHILD SEES SOMETHING IT WANTS...SOME SHINY ROCK....!


SHOULD FLEE THIS PLACE...ESCAPE FROM SAUCER!
BUT, HULK CAN TAKE A MINUTE TO MAKE MAN-CHILD HAPPY!
AFTER ALL, THERE'S NO DANGER... IF SAUCER CAN'T FIND HULK!


I LOCATED HIM WITH THE INFRA-RED SCANNER... JUST AS I KNEW I WOULD!
THE SEARCHLIGHT WAS ONLY A DECOY, TO--WAIT!
THERE'S SOMEONE WITH THE HULK... A CHILD!
HOW CAN I PRESS THIS FATAL TRIGGER AND KILL THE HULK... THEREBY DOOMING THE BOY, AS WELL?
AND YET...I MUST...OR BE CONSIDERED A TRAITOR!
20

THE HULK MUST DIE--NOW!!
TO BE HULKINUED!

THE INCREDIBLE
HULK
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
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107 SEPT
TEN RINGS HATH THE MANDARIN!

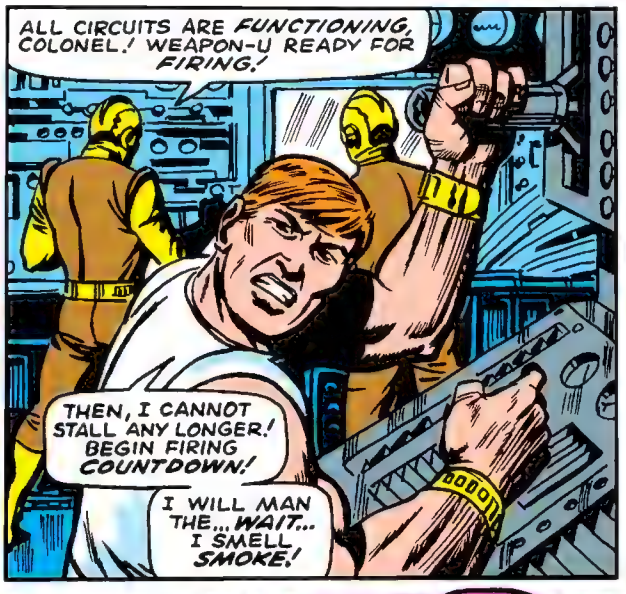
THE INCREDIBLE HULK!™

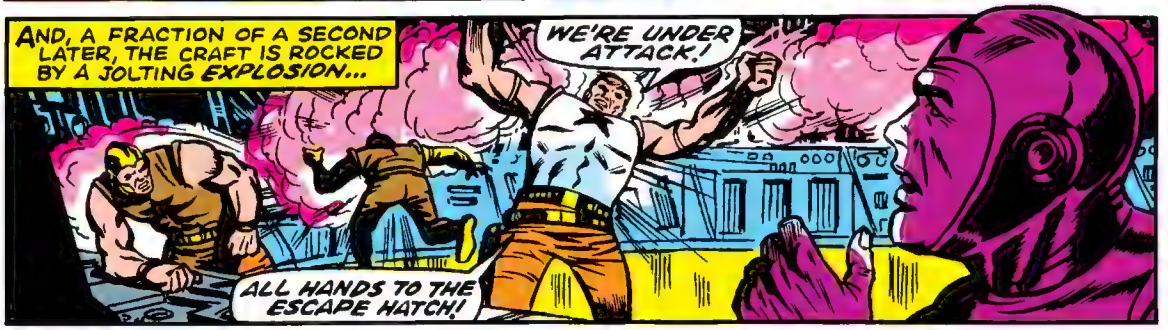
TEN RINGS HATH...
CAUGHT DEAD IN THE SIGHTS OF RUSSIAN SECRET SERVICE COLONEL YURI BREVLOV, THE HULK RISKS HIS VERY EXISTENCE TO SAVE THE LIFE OF A HELPLESS CHILD--HIS CLOUDED BRAIN UNABLE TO COMPREHEND THE SIMPLE FACT THAT HIS ACTIONS CAN ONLY LEAD THEM BOTH TO... CERTAIN DOOM!!
THE MANDARIN!!

BUT, JUST IN CASE YOU THINK... STAN LEE, *EDITOR* | GARY FRIEDRICH, *WRITER* | HERB TRIMPE, *ARTIST* | SYD SHORES, *INKER* | AND | ARTIE SIMEK *LETTERER*... | HAVE BITTEN OFF MORE THAN OL' GREEN-SKIN CAN *CHEW* THIS TIME, JUST TURN THE PAGE AND FIND OUT HOW *WRONG* YOU CAN BE...

IT IS NO USE, COLONEL!
OUR SHOTS MERELY BOUNCE OFF HIM...AND MAKE HIM MORE ANGRY!
SURELY, SIR, YOU REALIZE THAT OUR ONLY COURSE OF ACTION IS... THE UNI-DISINTEGRATOR!
DO YOU THINK I AM NOT AWARE OF THAT? YET, I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO HARM THE CHILD!
BUT...GOOD LORD! HE'S ATTACKING US!
I MUST MAKE ONE LAST ATTEMPT TO STOP HIM WITH OUR CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENT!
HULK WILL SMASH THOSE WHO SHOOT AT HIM!
HOWEVER, JUST AS THE ENRAGED BEHEMOTH SOARS TO WITHIN REACH OF THE SOVIET CRAFT...
ZAK!
:UUUNNNHHHH!:
PUNY WEAPONS ONLY STING HULK!
THEY CAN'T STOP ME!
BUT, AS THE RUSSIAN COUNTERPART TO NICK FURY PRESSES THE TRIGGER ONCE MORE...
KA-ZAT!
:AARRGGGHHH!:
AND, WITHIN SECONDS, THE GREAT GREEN GARGOYLE IS DRIVEN BACK TO EARTH...
THEIR WEAPONS ARE STRONGER THAN HULK THOUGHT...
...BUT NOT NEARLY STRONG ENOUGH TO KILL ME!
WHILE, A THOUSAND FEET OVERHEAD...
I CANNOT DELAY MY ACTION ANY LONGER!
HE LOOKS AS THOUGH HE'S GETTING READY TO ATTACK AGAIN! SO IT'S EITHER HIM AND THE BOY...OR MY SHIP AND CREW!
CLEARLY, I MUST USE THE UNI-DISINTEGRATOR AGAINST HIM!
PREPARE WEAPON-U FOR IMMEDIATE FIRING!
2

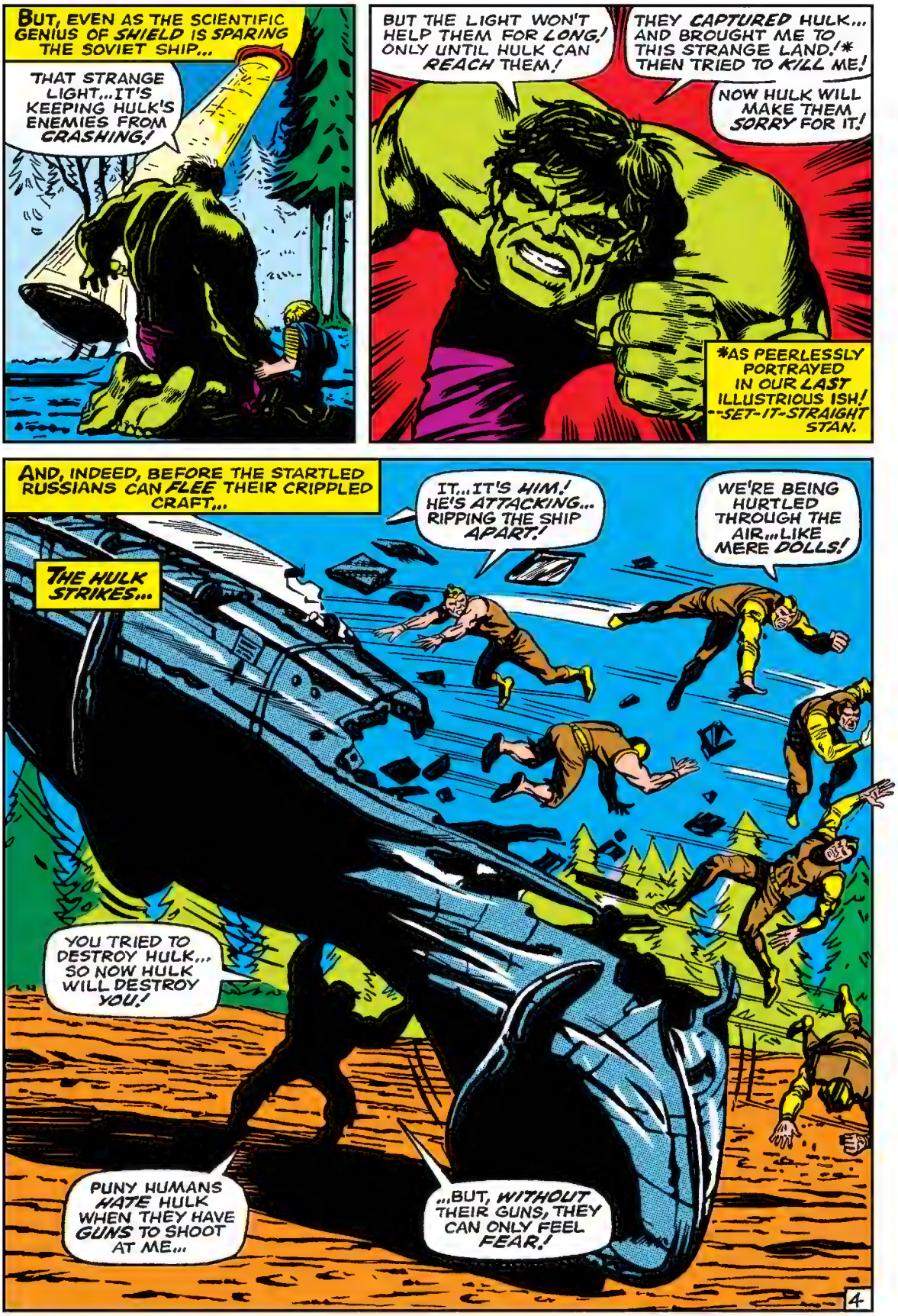
WHILE, BELOW...
GO AHEAD AND FIRE MORE BULLETS AT HULK! I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU!
YOU TRY TO HARM HULK...AND MY FRIEND! BUT IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD!
NO WEAPON ON EARTH CAN KILL ME...DO YOU HEAR? THE HULK CAN'T BE STOPPED!

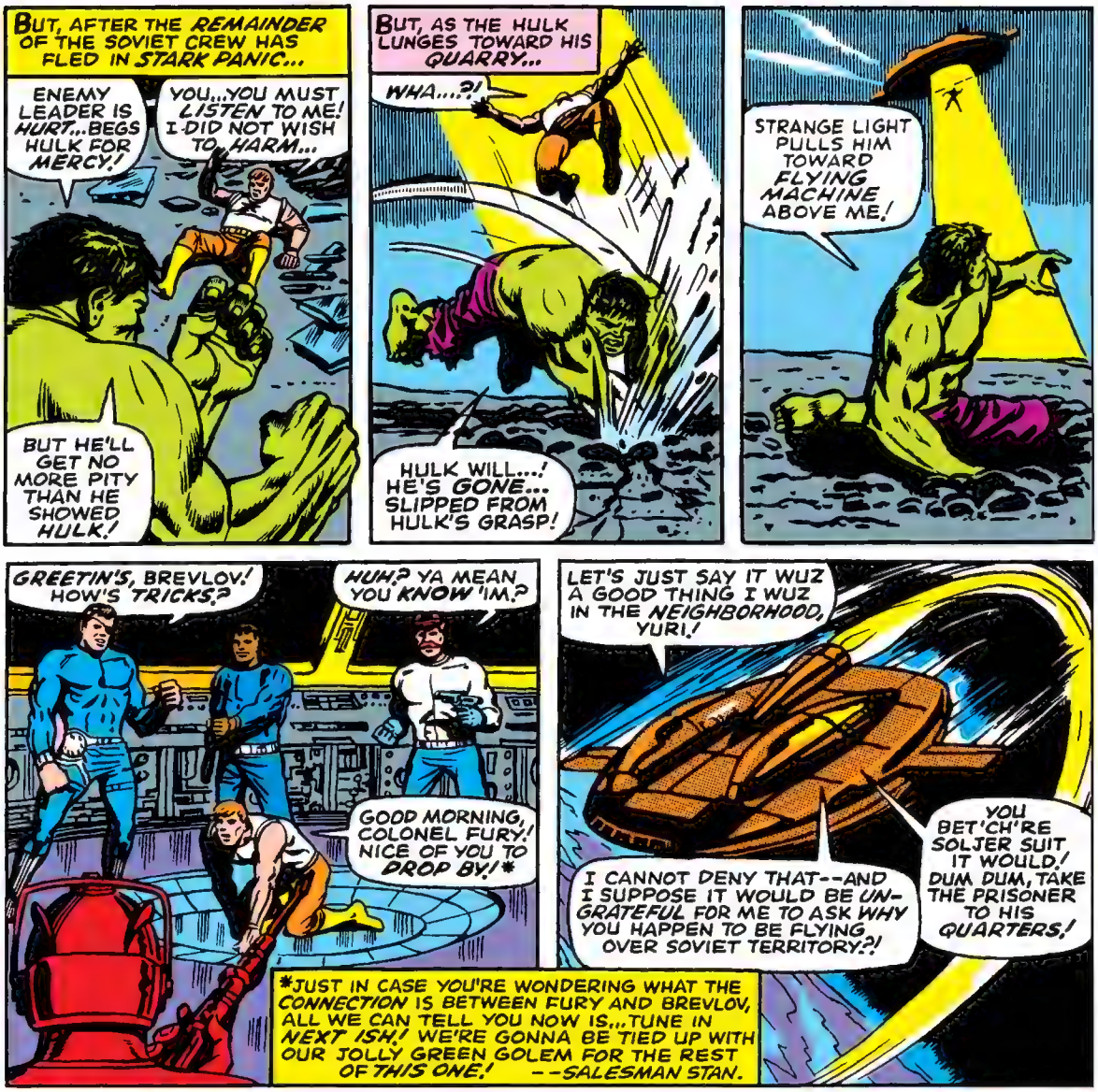

ALL CIRCUITS ARE FUNCTIONING, COLONEL! WEAPON-U READY FOR FIRING!
THEN, I CANNOT STALL ANY LONGER! BEGIN FIRING COUNTDOWN!
I WILL MAN THE...WAIT... I SMELL SMOKE!

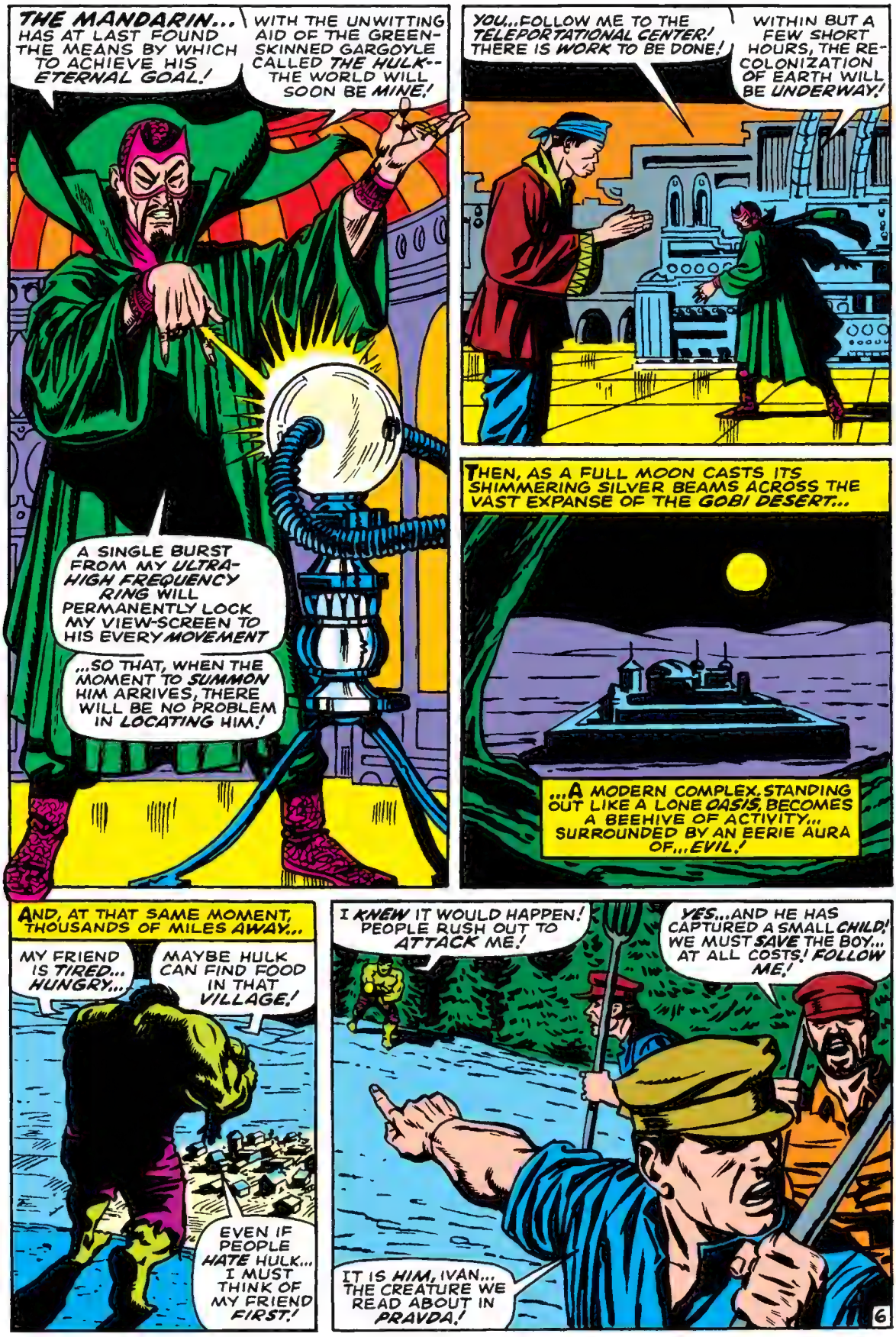

AND, A FRACTION OF A SECOND LATER, THE CRAFT IS ROCKED BY A JOLTING EXPLOSION...
WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
ALL HANDS TO THE ESCAPE HATCH!

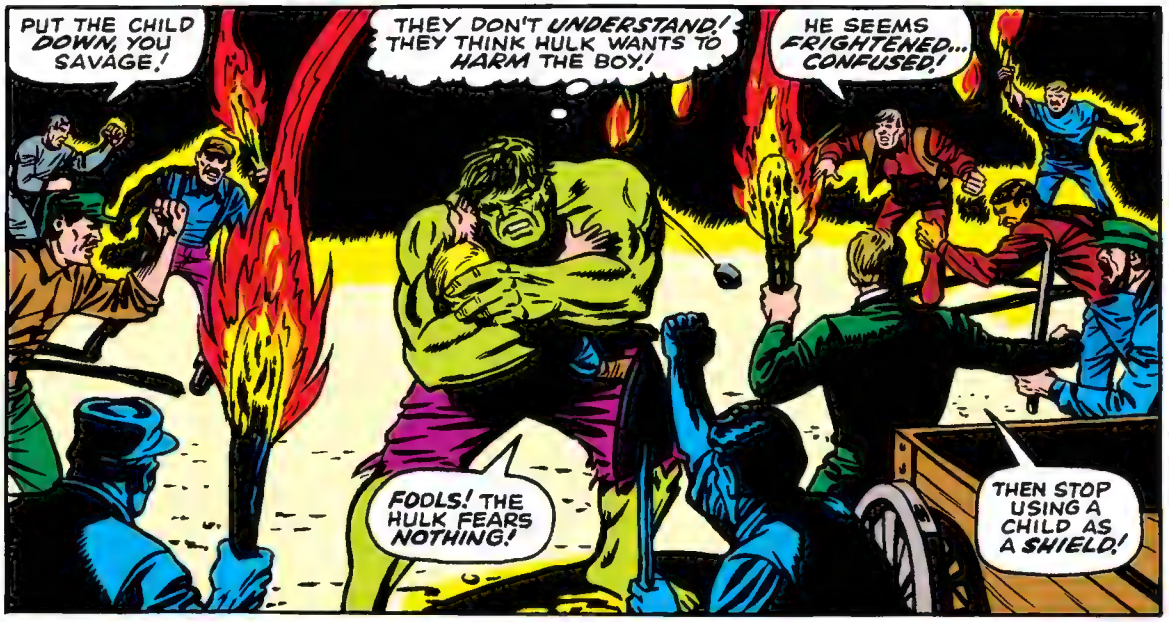
THEN, AS THE CRIPPLED SHIP SPINS DIZZILY TOWARD THE GROUND, ITS ATTACKER SWOOPS DOWN TO FOLLOW THE DEADLY DESCENT...
...ITS CREW GRIMLY FOLLOWING THE TERRIBLE TABLEAU ON A VIEWSCREEN...

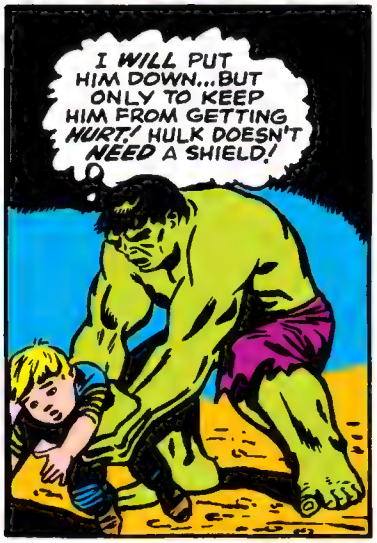
MAN THE VORTEX BEAM! I WANT THAT RUSKY SAUCER SET DOWN ON THE GROUND GENTLE AS A CRADLE!
I DON'T WANT A MAN ABOARD HURT!
YOU LOST YER MIND, NICK? FIRST YA SHOOT 'EM DOWN --THEN YA TELL US TO SAVE 'EM!
I'M RUNNIN' THIS SHOW, YA OL' WALRUS! SO JUST KEEP YER EYES PEELED... AND YER YAPPER SHUT!


BUT, EVEN AS THE SCIENTIFIC GENIUS OF SHIELD IS SPARING THE SOVIET SHIP...
THAT STRANGE LIGHT...IT'S KEEPING HULK'S ENEMIES FROM CRASHING!
BUT THE LIGHT WON'T HELP THEM FOR LONG! ONLY UNTIL HULK CAN REACH THEM!
THEY CAPTURED HULK... AND BROUGHT ME TO THIS STRANGE LAND!* THEN TRIED TO KILL ME!
NOW HULK WILL MAKE THEM SORRY FOR IT!
*AS PEERLESSLY PORTRAYED IN OUR LAST ILLUSTRIOUS ISH! --SET-IT-STRAIGHT STAN.
AND, INDEED, BEFORE THE STARTLED RUSSIANS CAN FLEE THEIR CRIPPLED CRAFT...
THE HULK STRIKES...
IT...IT'S HIM! HE'S ATTACKING... RIPPING THE SHIP APART!
WE'RE BEING HURTLED THROUGH THE AIR...LIKE MERE DOLLS!
YOU TRIED TO DESTROY HULK... SO NOW HULK WILL DESTROY YOU!
PUNY HUMANS HATE HULK WHEN THEY HAVE GUNS TO SHOOT AT ME...
...BUT, WITHOUT THEIR GUNS, THEY CAN ONLY FEEL FEAR!
4


BUT, AFTER THE REMAINDER OF THE SOVIET CREW HAS FLED IN STARK PANIC...
ENEMY LEADER IS HURT...BEGS HULK FOR MERCY!
YOU...YOU MUST LISTEN TO ME! I DID NOT WISH TO HARM...
BUT HE'LL GET NO MORE PITY THAN HE SHOWED HULK!
BUT, AS THE HULK LUNGES TOWARD HIS QUARRY...
WHA...?!
HULK WILL...! HE'S GONE... SLIPPED FROM HULK'S GRASP!
STRANGE LIGHT PULLS HIM TOWARD FLYING MACHINE ABOVE ME!
GREETIN'S, BREVLOV! HOW'S TRICKS?
HUH? YA MEAN YOU KNOW 'IM?
GOOD MORNING, COLONEL FURY! NICE OF YOU TO DROP BY!*
LET'S JUST SAY IT WUZ A GOOD THING I WUZ IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, YURI!
I CANNOT DENY THAT--AND I SUPPOSE IT WOULD BE UNGRATEFUL FOR ME TO ASK WHY YOU HAPPEN TO BE FLYING OVER SOVIET TERRITORY?!
YOU BET'CH'RE SOLJER SUIT IT WOULD! DUM DUM, TAKE THE PRISONER TO HIS QUARTERS!
*JUST IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT THE CONNECTION IS BETWEEN FURY AND BREVLOV, ALL WE CAN TELL YOU NOW IS...TUNE IN NEXT ISH! WE'RE GONNA BE TIED UP WITH OUR JOLLY GREEN GOLEM FOR THE REST OF THIS ONE! --SALESMAN STAN.
SO...SOMEONE'S CHEATED HULK OUT OF HIS REVENGE! BUT, IT WON'T BE FOR LONG...
...HULK WILL GO AFTER THEM...AND NOTHING CAN STOP ME!
NOTHING, THAT IS, SAVE THE MAD SCIENTIFIC GENIUS OF A MAN THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY...IN A REMOTE SECTION OF COMMUNIST CHINA...
...A MAN WHO CAREFULLY WATCHES THE HULK'S EVERY MOVE, HIS MIND WHIRLING WITH YET ANOTHER OF HIS SINISTER SCHEMES FOR WORLD DOMINATION...
...A MAN KNOWN TO THE WORLD AS...


THE MANDARIN... HAS AT LAST FOUND THE MEANS BY WHICH TO ACHIEVE HIS ETERNAL GOAL!
WITH THE UNWITTING AID OF THE GREEN-SKINNED GARGOYLE CALLED THE HULK--THE WORLD WILL SOON BE MINE!
A SINGLE BURST FROM MY ULTRA-HIGH FREQUENCY RING WILL PERMANENTLY LOCK MY VIEW-SCREEN TO HIS EVERY MOVEMENT
...SO THAT, WHEN THE MOMENT TO SUMMON HIM ARRIVES, THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM IN LOCATING HIM!
YOU...FOLLOW ME TO THE TELEPORTATIONAL CENTER! THERE IS WORK TO BE DONE!
WITHIN BUT A FEW SHORT HOURS, THE RE-COLONIZATION OF EARTH WILL BE UNDERWAY!
THEN, AS A FULL MOON CASTS ITS SHIMMERING SILVER BEAMS ACROSS THE VAST EXPANSE OF THE GOBI DESERT...
...A MODERN COMPLEX, STANDING OUT LIKE A LONE OASIS, BECOMES A BEEHIVE OF ACTIVITY... SURROUNDED BY AN EERIE AURA OF...EVIL!
AND, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY...
MY FRIEND IS TIRED... HUNGRY...
MAYBE HULK CAN FIND FOOD IN THAT VILLAGE!
EVEN IF PEOPLE HATE HULK... I MUST THINK OF MY FRIEND FIRST!
I KNEW IT WOULD HAPPEN! PEOPLE RUSH OUT TO ATTACK ME!
YES...AND HE HAS CAPTURED A SMALL CHILD! WE MUST SAVE THE BOY... AT ALL COSTS! FOLLOW ME!
IT IS HIM, IVAN... THE CREATURE WE READ ABOUT IN PRAVDA!


PUT THE CHILD DOWN, YOU SAVAGE!
THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND! THEY THINK HULK WANTS TO HARM THE BOY!
HE SEEMS FRIGHTENED... CONFUSED!
FOOLS! THE HULK FEARS NOTHING!
THEN STOP USING A CHILD AS A SHIELD!

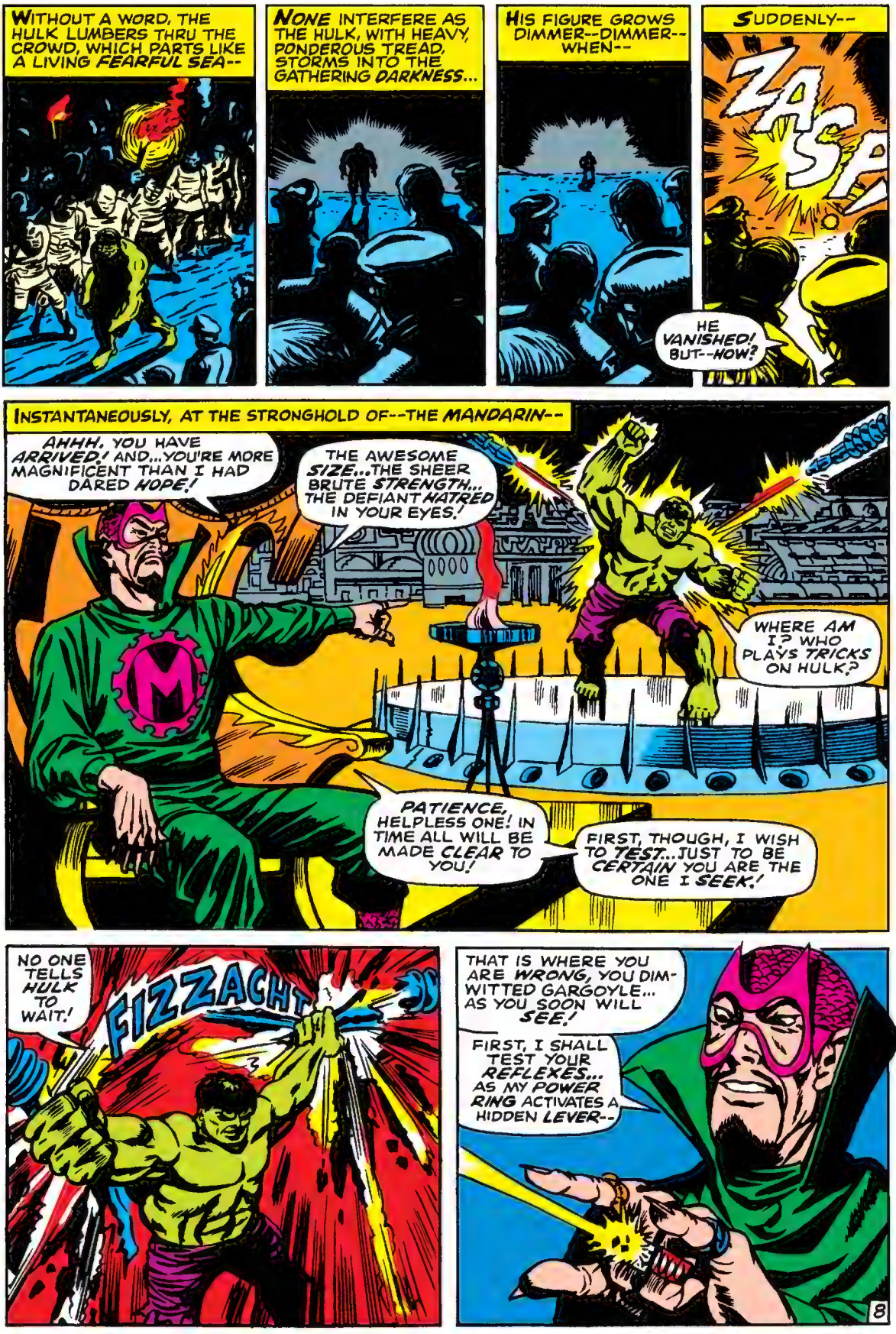

I WILL PUT HIM DOWN...BUT ONLY TO KEEP HIM FROM GETTING HURT! HULK DOESN'T NEED A SHIELD!

LOOK! HE'S DOING IT! HE'S PUT THE BOY ASIDE!
NOW LET'S FINISH THE MONSTER! COME ON!

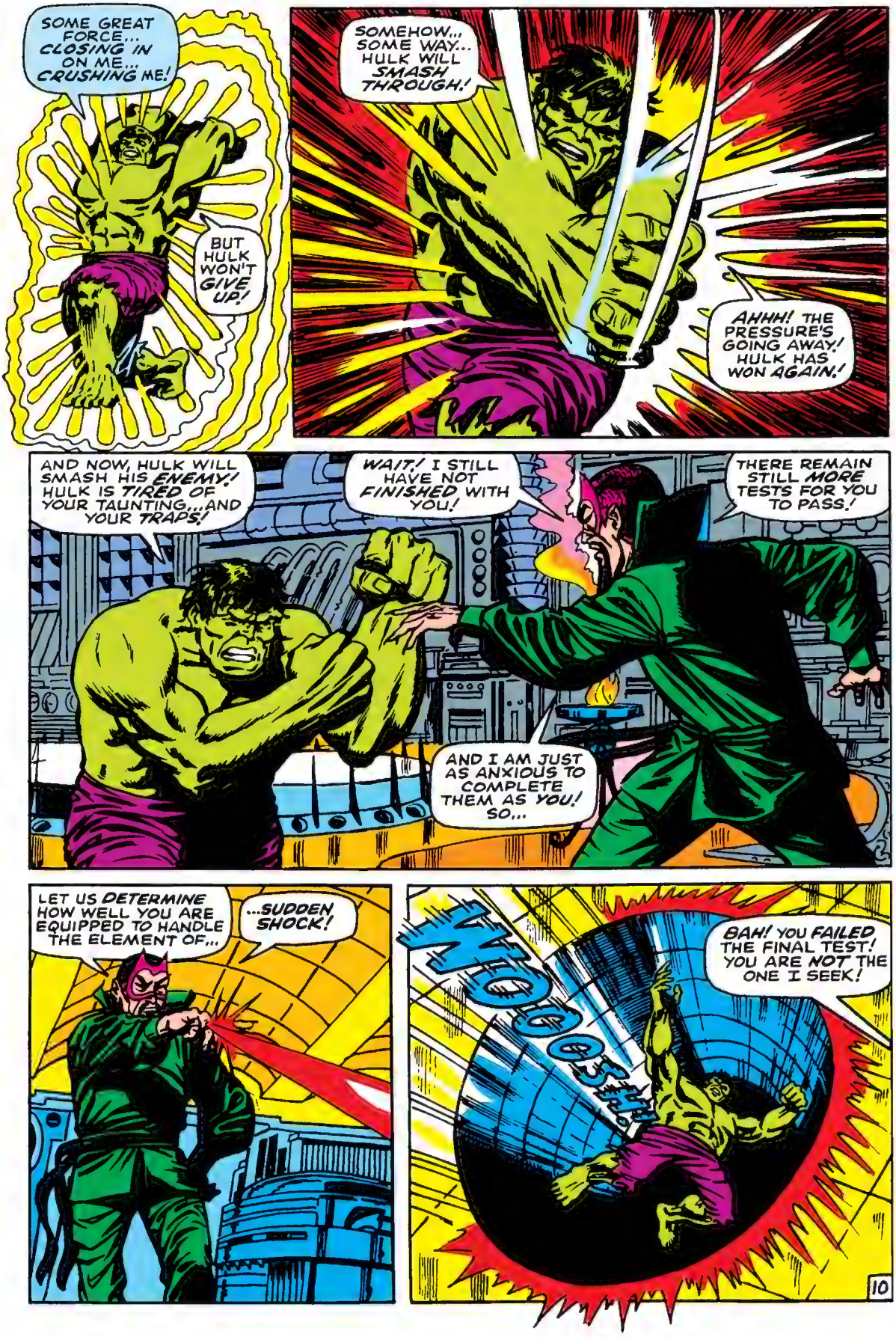
HULK'S FRIEND IS SAFE NOW! HULK IS READY TO FIGHT!
IF PUNY MEN WANT BATTLE... HULK WILL GIVE IT TO THEM!
WAIT!

WHAT? NO ONE ORDERS HULK TO...
PLEASE! YOU'RE MY FRIEND...BUT SO ARE THEY!
DON'T HURT THEM! PLEASE!

THE BOY DOESN'T SEEM TO BE AFRAID!
IS WHAT HE SAYS TRUE...THAT YOU'VE BEFRIENDED HIM?


WITHOUT A WORD, THE HULK LUMBERS THRU THE CROWD, WHICH PARTS LIKE A LIVING FEARFUL SEA--
NONE INTERFERE AS THE HULK, WITH HEAVY, PONDEROUS TREAD, STORMS INTO THE GATHERING DARKNESS...
HIS FIGURE GROWS DIMMER--DIMMER--WHEN--
SUDDENLY--
ZASP
HE VANISHED! BUT--HOW?
INSTANTANEOUSLY, AT THE STRONGHOLD OF--THE MANDARIN--
AHHH, YOU HAVE ARRIVED! AND...YOU'RE MORE MAGNIFICENT THAN I HAD DARED HOPE!
THE AWESOME SIZE...THE SHEER BRUTE STRENGTH... THE DEFIANT HATRED IN YOUR EYES!
WHERE AM I? WHO PLAYS TRICKS ON HULK?
PATIENCE, HELPLESS ONE! IN TIME ALL WILL BE MADE CLEAR TO YOU!
FIRST, THOUGH, I WISH TO TEST...JUST TO BE CERTAIN YOU ARE THE ONE I SEEK!
NO ONE TELLS HULK TO WAIT!
FIZZACH!
THAT IS WHERE YOU ARE WRONG, YOU DIM-WITTED GARGOYLE... AS YOU SOON WILL SEE!
FIRST, I SHALL TEST YOUR REFLEXES... AS MY POWER RING ACTIVATES A HIDDEN LEVER--

WHAT'S THIS? COULD I HAVE BEEN WRONG? HE CONTINUES TO RANT AND RAVE WHILE CERTAIN DEATH HURTLES EVER CLOSER TO HIM!
HULK DIDN'T ASK TO COME HERE! SEND ME BACK... OR HULK WILL DESTROY YOU!
RAWK!
HAH! HULK FOOLED YOU! YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD TRAPPED HULK!
BUT NOW HULK WILL SHOW YOU WHO THE REAL FOOL IS!
INCREDIBLE! HIS REFLEXES ARE WITHOUT EQUAL! STILL, HE MUST BE TESTED FURTHER!
NOW I WILL TEST YOUR RESISTANCE TO THE UNKNOWN...
...BY ENGULFING YOU IN AN INVISIBLE, ELECTRONIC FORCE FIELD!
AGGGH!
9


SOME GREAT FORCE... CLOSING IN ON ME... CRUSHING ME!
BUT HULK WON'T GIVE UP!
SOMEHOW... SOME WAY... HULK WILL SMASH THROUGH!
AHHH! THE PRESSURE'S GOING AWAY! HULK HAS WON AGAIN!
AND NOW, HULK WILL SMASH HIS ENEMY! HULK IS TIRED OF YOUR TAUNTING...AND YOUR TRAPS!
WAIT! I STILL HAVE NOT FINISHED WITH YOU!
THERE REMAIN STILL MORE TESTS FOR YOU TO PASS!
AND I AM JUST AS ANXIOUS TO COMPLETE THEM AS YOU! SO...
LET US DETERMINE HOW WELL YOU ARE EQUIPPED TO HANDLE THE ELEMENT OF...
...SUDDEN SHOCK!
KNOCK
BAH! YOU FAILED THE FINAL TEST! YOU ARE NOT THE ONE I SEEK!
10

FOOL! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU'D HAVE A WEAKNESS! YOUR FEEBLE MIND IS UNABLE TO REACT FAST ENOUGH--
TINY PIT WASN'T DEEP ENOUGH TO HOLD HULK! NOTHING CAN HOLD HULK!
I WAS WRONG! HIS LEG MUSCLES GIVE HIM THE POWER TO LEAP UNBELIEVABLE HEIGHTS AND DISTANCES!
THROOM!
HE IS TRULY THE ONE I HAVE SEARCHED FOR! NOW ALL THAT REMAINS IS FOR ME TO TEACH HIM OBEDIENCE!

AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO BEGIN THAN TO IMMOBILIZE HIM,,,MAKE HIM HELPLESS TO ATTACK ME!
UNHHH!

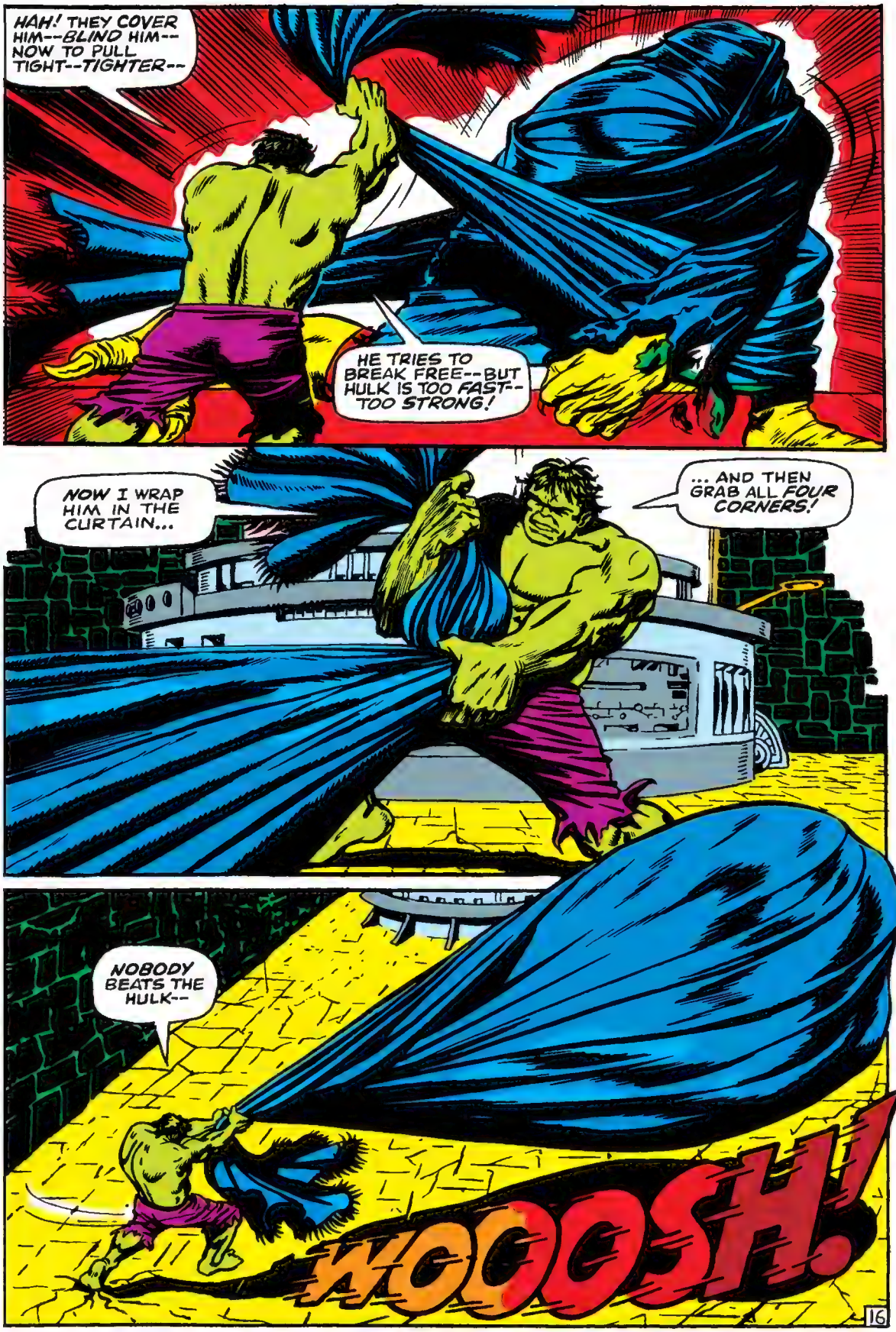
SURELY NOT EVEN HE CAN HOPE TO BREAK FREE OF A COAT OF SOLID CEMENT!
HULK SURROUNDED... BY CONCRETE! CAN'T MOVE... OR BREATHE!

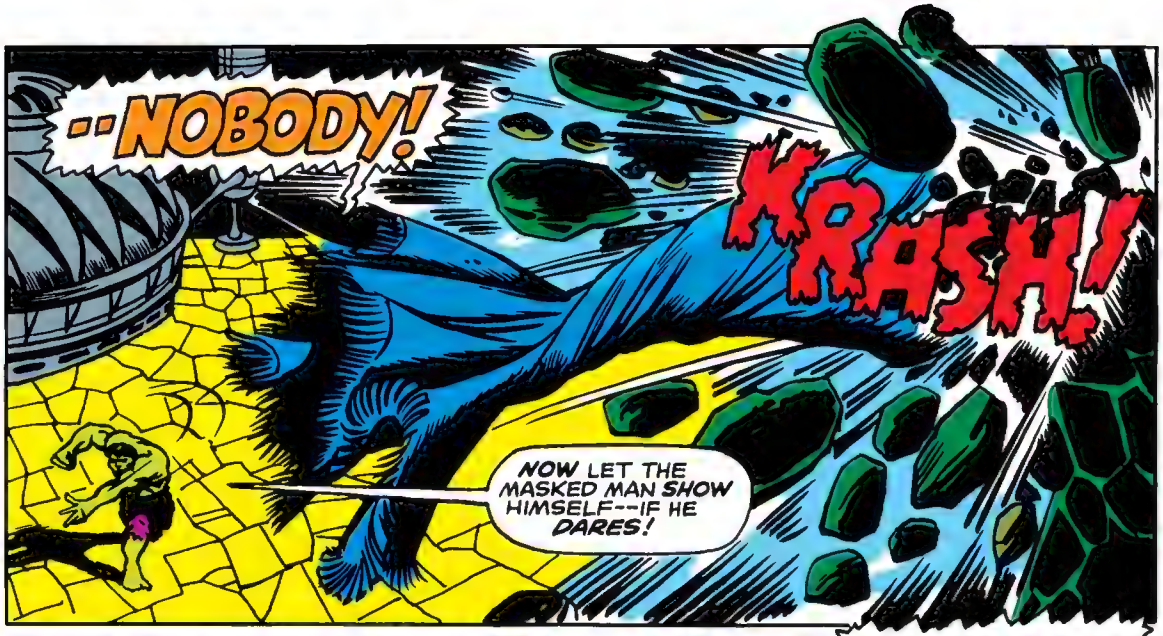
MUST BREAK FREE...BUT HOW?
UNLESS I CAN SHATTER THE CONCRETE BY...
...SMASHING IT AGAINST THE FLOOR!
CRASH!
IT WORKED!
NOW HULK IS FREE TO FIGHT BACK!
WHOOM!
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HULK...YET YOU TRY TO KILL ME!
YOU'RE LIKE ALL OTHER MEN...ALWAYS HOUNDING HULK!
BUT HULK WON'T TAKE ANY MORE! NOW HULK WILL FIGHT BACK!
HE'S FAR STRONGER THAN EVEN I HAD ANTICIPATED...
...HE'S RIPPED THE VERY FLOOR ON WHICH I STAND FROM UNDER MY FEET!
YOU ARE HULK'S ENEMY...AND HULK CAN NEVER REST WHILE ENEMIES LIVE!
SO NOW HULK WILL CRUSH YOU LIKE A FLY!
BUT...WHAT'S THAT? THE MASKED MAN WAS JUST...A ROBOT!
THAT MEANS MAN WHO TRIED TO KILL HULK IS STILL ...ALIVE!
12

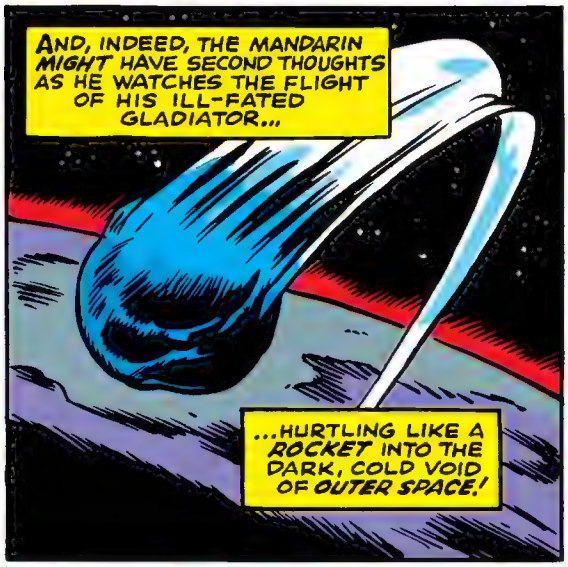
AND, INDEED, THE MANDARIN IS VERY MUCH ALIVE... IN ANOTHER SECTOR OF HIS CITADEL...
THUS FAR, HE EXCEEDS MY EVERY ANTICIPATION!
BUT, IN A GAMBIT SUCH AS MINE, I CAN TAKE NO CHANCES!
THE SUPREME TRIALS REMAIN TO BE PASSED.. AND I CANNOT ACCEPT HIM UNTIL HE HAS PASSED THEM ALL!
SO NOW LET US SEE HOW HE FARES AGAINST ONE EVEN BIGGER... STRONGER THAN HIMSELF!
THEN, AS THE HULK SEARCHES FOR HIS TORMENTOR IN CONFUSED BEWILDERMENT...
THOUGH HE IS MERELY A GIGANTIC ANDROID, HE WILL SERVE MY PURPOSE ADMIRABLY!
WHA-? AT LAST! SOMETHING REAL... SOMETHING HULK CAN FIGHT!
13

HE MAY BE BIGGER... BUT HULK IS SMARTER... FASTER...
WHOK!
HE CAN'T HURT HULK... IF HE CAN'T SEE HIM...
...AND HULK KNOWS HOW TO FIX THAT!
ENEMY CAN'T SEE HULK NOW!
SO HULK HAS TIME TO COUNTER ATTACK!
BY PULLING HIS FEET OUT FROM UNDER HIM!
GAAA!
THOK!
HULK HAS WON AGAIN!

BUT, AS OUR RAGING GREEN GOLIATH GLOATS IN HIS SEEMING TRIUMPH...
HE IS STRONG AS HULK! HE GETS UP AGAIN!
IT IS TIME-- FOR HULK-- TO LEAP AGAIN--!
--BUT NOT AT GIANT ENEMY--!
THIS TIME HULK WILL DO WHAT HE DOES NOT EXPECT--
FIRST, I RIP DRAPES RIGHT OFF THE WALL--!
15


HAH! THEY COVER HIM--BLIND HIM--NOW TO PULL TIGHT--TIGHTER--
HE TRIES TO BREAK FREE--BUT HULK IS TOO FAST--TOO STRONG!
NOW I WRAP HIM IN THE CURTAIN...
... AND THEN GRAB ALL FOUR CORNERS!
NOBODY BEATS THE HULK--
WOOOSH!


--NOBODY!
KRASH!
NOW LET THE MASKED MAN SHOW HIMSELF--IF HE DARES!


AND, INDEED, THE MANDARIN MIGHT HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS AS HE WATCHES THE FLIGHT OF HIS ILL-FATED GLADIATOR...
...HURTLING LIKE A ROCKET INTO THE DARK, COLD VOID OF OUTER SPACE!

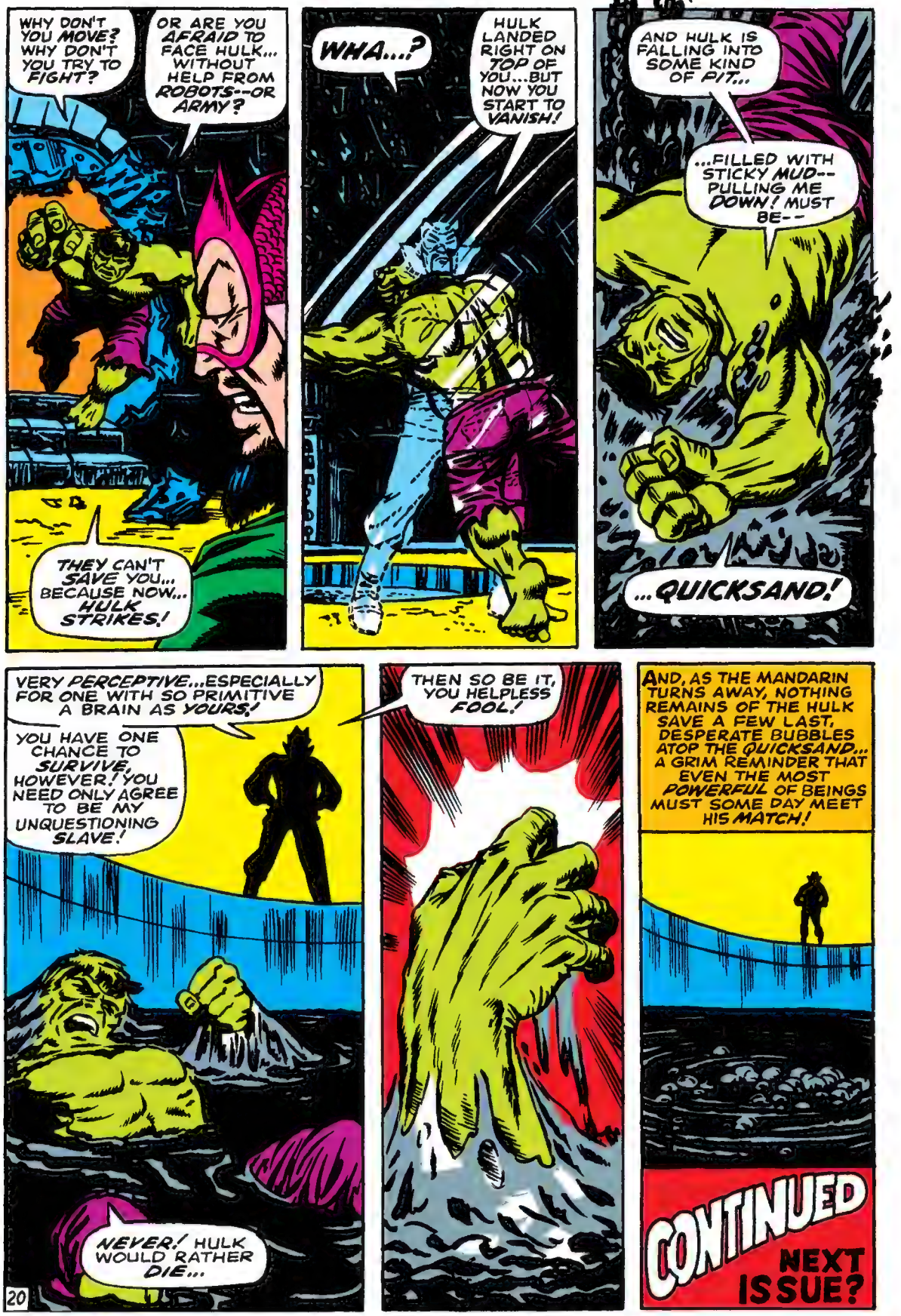
LISTEN TO ME! ATTEMPT TO COMPREHEND WHAT I AM ABOUT TO SAY!
YOU HAVE PASSED ALL MY TESTS... WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST MISCUE!
THEREFORE, I HAVE CHOSEN TO LET YOU BECOME...MY ALLY!
WHAT?!!

THE HULK SIDES WITH NO ONE!
CRAWSH!
EVERYONE HATES HULK... AND HULK HATES EVERYONE!

WITH BLOWS LIKE BULLDOZER THRUSTS, THE RAMPAGING HULK PLOWS THROUGH WALL AND MACHINERY ALIKE, UNTIL...
MASKED MAN TRIED TO KILL HULK...BUT HULK WILL GET HIM FIRST!

IT IS AS I FEARED! THE HULK IS AS UNCONTROLLABLE AS HE IS STRONG!
BUT, I HAD ANTICIPATED AS MUCH...AND I AM PREPARED!
GUARDS!
PROCEED TO SECTOR Q... IMMEDIATELY! THE HULK MUST BE STOPPED!
WE HEAR... AND OBEY, MASTER!
MASKED MAN MUST BE CRAZY! AFTER HULK BEAT THE CREATURE...NOW HE SENDS PUNY SOLDIERS TO FACE ME!
BUT NO ARMY IS BIG ENOUGH TO STOP HULK!
THERE HE IS! COMMENCE FIRING ON THE BRUTE! WE MUST BRING HIM DOWN!
WE ARE TRYING, HONORABLE CAPTAIN ...BUT THE BULLETS MERELY BOUNCE OFF HIM!
THEN, AS THE TERRIFIED GUARDS LOOK ON IN STUNNED CONFUSION--
THESE TWO WALLS HOLD THE ROOF UP... SO, IF WALLS COLLAPSE...
18

...SO WILL ROOF!
NOW HULK MUST FIND MASKED MAN!
WHAT'S LOCKED BEHIND IRON DOOR--?
HAH! NO ONE CAN HIDE FROM HULK!
HULK WAS RIGHT!
MASKED MAN WAS WAITING FOR HULK... BUT HE WON'T WAIT ANY LONGER!


WHY DON'T YOU MOVE? WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO FIGHT?
OR ARE YOU AFRAID TO FACE HULK... WITHOUT HELP FROM ROBOTS--OR ARMY?
THEY CAN'T SAVE YOU... BECAUSE NOW... HULK STRIKES!
WHA...?
HULK LANDED RIGHT ON TOP OF YOU...BUT NOW YOU START TO VANISH!
AND HULK IS FALLING INTO SOME KIND OF PIT...
...FILLED WITH STICKY MUD-- PULLING ME DOWN! MUST BE--
...QUICKSAND!
VERY PERCEPTIVE...ESPECIALLY FOR ONE WITH SO PRIMITIVE A BRAIN AS YOURS!
YOU HAVE ONE CHANCE TO SURVIVE, HOWEVER! YOU NEED ONLY AGREE TO BE MY UNQUESTIONING SLAVE!
NEVER! HULK WOULD RATHER DIE...
THEN SO BE IT, YOU HELPLESS FOOL!
AND, AS THE MANDARIN TURNS AWAY, NOTHING REMAINS OF THE HULK SAVE A FEW LAST, DESPERATE BUBBLES ATOP THE QUICKSAND... A GRIM REMINDER THAT EVEN THE MOST POWERFUL OF BEINGS MUST SOME DAY MEET HIS MATCH!
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE?
20

THE INCREDIBLE
HULK
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
108 OCT
"MONSTER TRIUMPHANT!"

THE INCREDIBLE HULK!

MONSTER TRIUMPHANT!
FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT SERVE THE MANDARIN, THE PRICE IS CERTAIN DEATH!
AND EVEN THE HULK MUST PAY HIS DUE!
THE MORE-- I STRUGGLE-- THE FASTER-- THE DEEPER-- I SINK!!
WRITTEN BY OUR LEADER, SMILIN' STAN LEE WHO MISSES HIS GREEN-SKINNED GARGOYLE!
ILLUSTRATED BY OUR FOLLOWER, HAPPY HERBY TRIMPE WHO LONGS FOR HIS PHANTOM EAGLE!
EMBELLISHMENT: JOHN SEVERIN
LETTERING: I. WATANABE
IT'S NOT THAT WE DON'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED LAST ISH, BUT WE HATE TO WASTE TIME EXPLAINING AT A TIME LIKE THIS! SO LET'S HIT THE QUICKSAND, QUERULOUS ONE...WE'LL BACKTRACK AS WE BARREL ALONG--

FAREWELL, MONSTER!
SUCH IS THE FATE OF ALL WHO ARE CALLOW ENOUGH TO DEFY--
THE MULTI-POWERED MANDARIN!
BUT EVEN AS THE MERCILESS ARCH-FIEND SLINKS AWAY...
HULK'S STRENGTH --IS USELESS!
CAN'T FIGHT-- STICKY SAND--!
SINKING DEEPER-- DEEPER--SAND GETTING IN NOSE --AND IN--WAIT!
WALL-- AT SIDE OF SAND!
HULK CAN HIT WALL--CAN SMASH IT--!
WHAT--WAS THAT?
HE FOUND AN ESCAPE!
HIS BRAIN IS LESS BESTIAL THAN I SUPPOSED!
NOW YOU PAY-- FOR TRYING TO KILL HULK!
PULLING THAT LEVER--CAN'T HELP YOU!
AH SO? LET US SEE--!
CLICK!
2

KHOOM!
HE DROPPED-- GLASS CAGE-- ON ME!
BUT NO CAGE CAN IMPRISON HULK!
THIS ONE CAN--
--BECAUSE OF THE NERVE GAS IT CONTAINS!
GAS! THE ONLY THING--
I CAN'T-- FIGHT BACK AGAINST...!
HE SLUMPS TO HIS KNEES! I HAVE WON-- AGAIN!
BUT HE IS TOO VALUABLE TO SLAY!
I SHALL YET FIND A WAY TO MAKE HIM SERVE ME!
TO THE MEDI-CHAMBER WITH HIM!
BE QUICK ABOUT IT, YOU CRINGING CARRION!
THE HULK SHALL BE THE FUSE WITH WHICH I TRIGGER A REIGN OF CONQUEST SUCH AS MEN HAVE NEVER KNOWN!
BEFORE THIS DAY IS ENDED, ALL THE WORLD SHALL TREMBLE BEFORE THE MATCHLESS MIGHT OF THE SUPREME MANDARIN!
FREE WORLD AND SLAVE ALIKE WILL BE MINE TO COMMAND!
FOR THE MANDARIN OWES ALLEGIANCE TO NONE WHO LIVE!

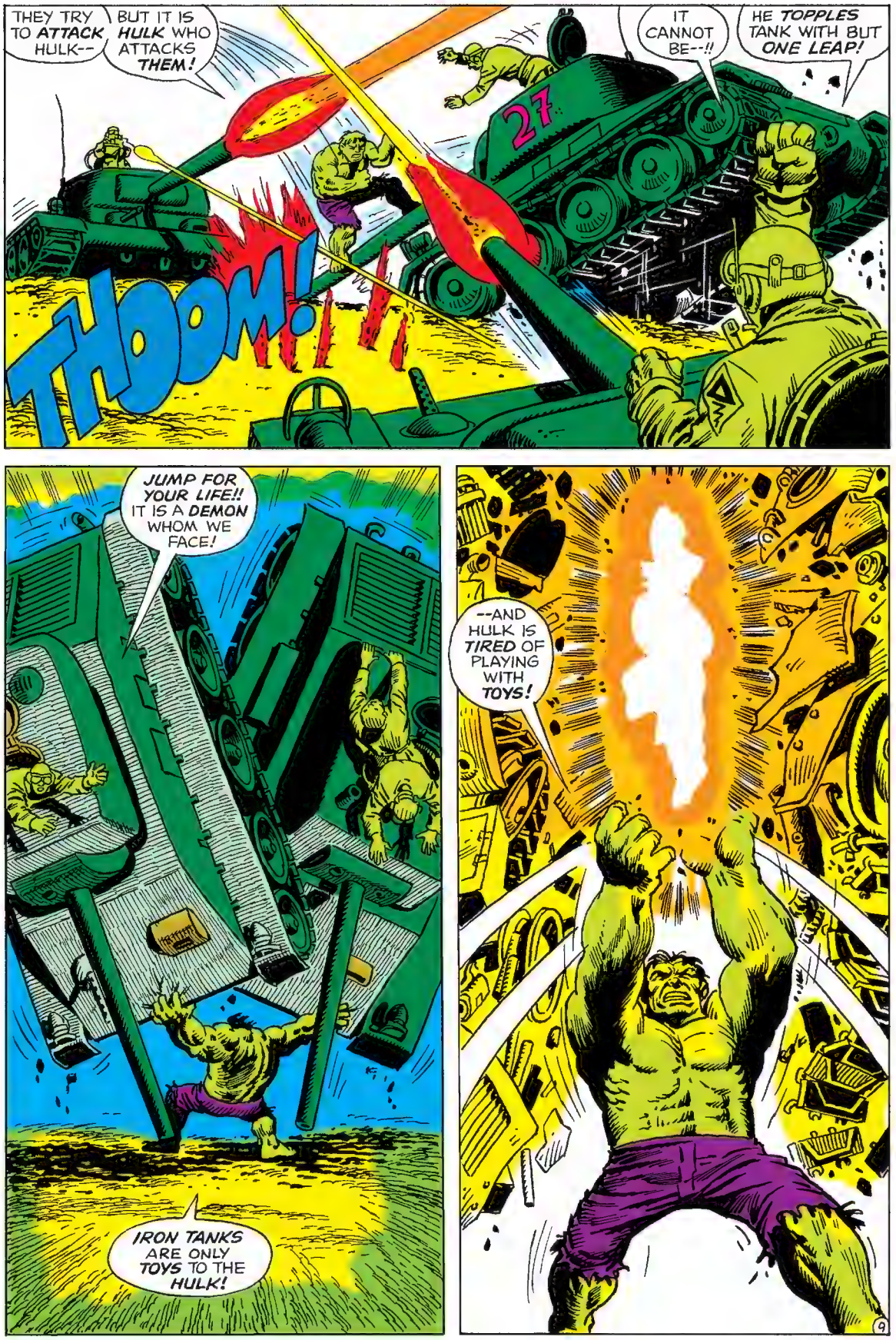
SECONDS LATER--
THERE! IT IS DONE!
I HAVE PLACED THE CONTROL DEVICE ON THE MONSTER'S NECK!
I SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS SOONER!
THOUGH NONE CAN OVERCOME HIS INDESCRIBABLE STRENGTH --
HE HAS A WEAKNESS--HE HAS AN ACHILLES' HEEL--HE CAN BE DEFEATED--
BY STRIKING AT HIS MOST VULNERABLE POINT--HIS BRAIN!
"WHEN HE AWAKENS, HE WILL BECOME MY MIGHTIEST WEAPON--"
"NO REGION ON EARTH WILL BE SPARED HIS ATTACK--"
"HE'LL TURN NATION AGAINST NATION--ALLY AGAINST ALLY--"
EACH OF THE GREAT NUCLEAR POWERS WILL THINK HE SERVES ITS ENEMY!
SOON, BECAUSE OF THE HULK'S ATTACK, ALL THE WORLD WILL BE PLUNGED INTO CATACLYSMIC NUCLEAR WARFARE--!
AND, WHEN IT IS ENDED, ONLY THE MAJESTIC MANDARIN SHALL SURVIVE!
HERE WILL I REIGN--IN MY IMPREGNABLE CASTLE FORTRESS--MASTER OF MANKIND--RULER OF THE PLANET EARTH!
4

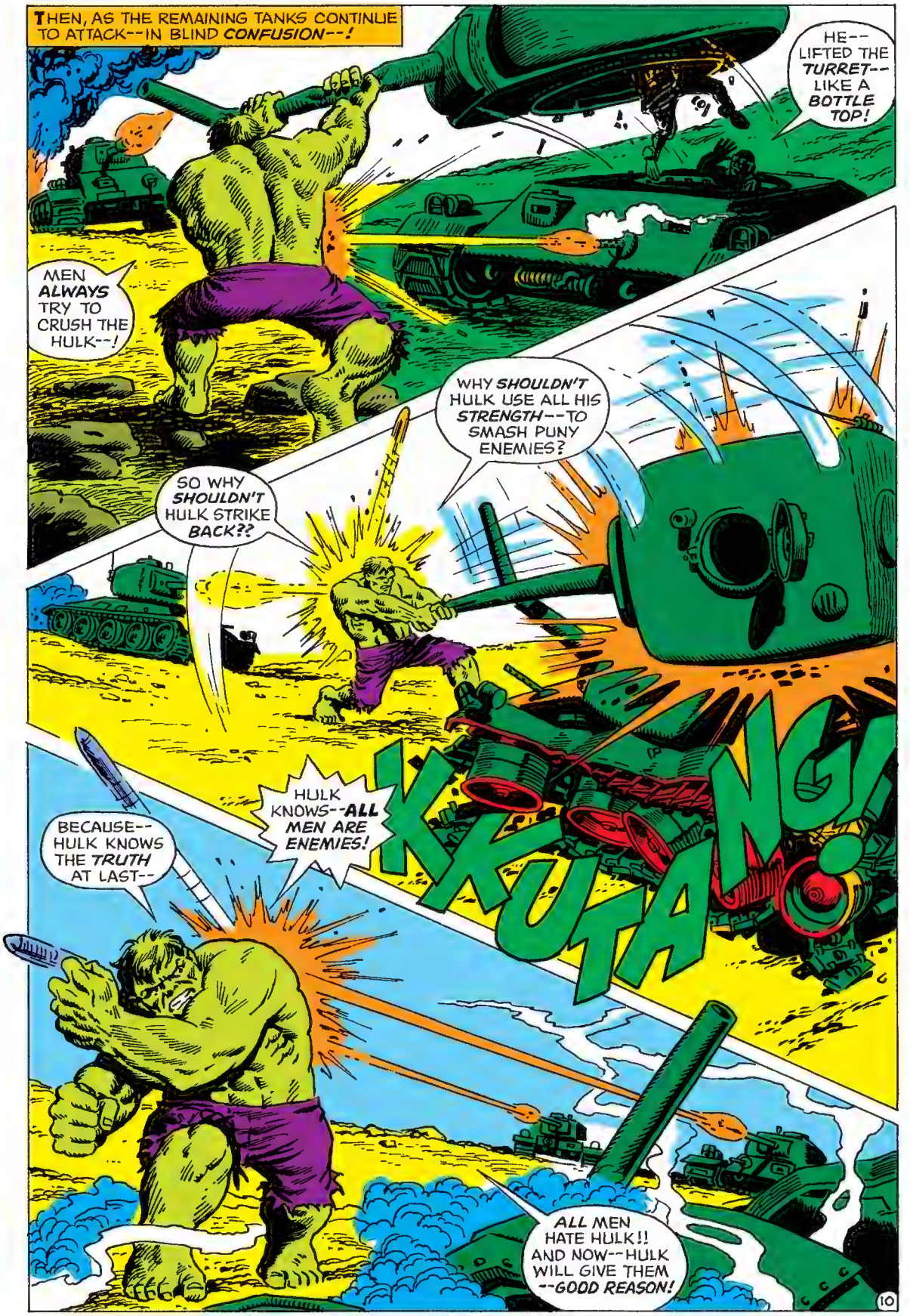
MASTER! MASTER! THE MONSTER WAKES!
KKRAK!
HE BREAKS THE GALVANIZED CHAINS AS THOUGH THEY ARE MERE BANDS OF RUBBER!
DO NOT PANIC!
IT WAS TO BE EXPECTED!
LEAVE ME, ALL! I WISH TO FACE MY GARGANTUAN SERVANT ALONE!
SERVANT!?? THE HULK SERVES NO ONE!
THIS TIME--YOU WON'T ESCAPE AGAIN!
FOOL! YOU THINK I WISH TO ESCAPE YOU?
SPTAK!
IT IS YOU WHO CANNOT ESCAPE!
YOU--ARE--MASTER!
I AM YOUR MASTER! YOU MUST DO MY BIDDING--FOREVER!
5

NOW, PREPARE --FOR YOUR FIRST COMMAND!
I--STAND READY-- MASTER!
YOU WILL PROCEED TWO HUNDRED KILOMETERS NORTHWARD, TRAVELING AT YOUR MAXIMUM SPEED--
THERE, YOU WILL DESTROY THE RAILROAD TERMINAL AT THE MOUTH OF THE TSEN-TSE RIVER!
HULK MUST OBEY! MUST DESTROY TERMINAL!
MEANWHILE, AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF RED COLONEL YURI BREVLOV, WE FIND HIM HOSTING A MOST UNLIKELY GUEST--
SEEMS LIKE ONLY YESTERDAY THAT WE WERE PULVERIZIN' THE NAZIS TOGETHER, PAL!
AND NOW--WE EACH WIND UP ON DIFFERENT SIDES OF YER BLASTED IRON CURTAIN!
BUT A FRIENDSHIP SUCH AS OURS WAS BORN IN BATTLE-- HONED IN COMRADESHIP!
IT MUST NOT BE SHATTERED BY MERE NATIONAL POLITICS!
THAT'S OKAY BY ME, MISTER-- BUT WHAT'LL YOUR BOSSES IN THE KREMLIN SAY WHEN-- HEY! WHAT'S THAT?
OUR ORBITING SATELLITE SCANNER HAS DETECTED A DISTURBANCE IN TSEN-TSE PROVINCE!
ANY SUCH EVENT THERE-- IN THE HEART OF RED CHINA-- CAN HAVE DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR US ALL!
IT IS THE GREEN-SKINNED ONE! I HAVE FOUND HIM AT LAST!
I READ YA, MAN! BUT HOW DO WE STOP 'IM?
BUT THE CHINESE WILL THINK HE ATTACKS THEM FOR US! THIS COULD LEAD TO--GLOBAL WAR!
6

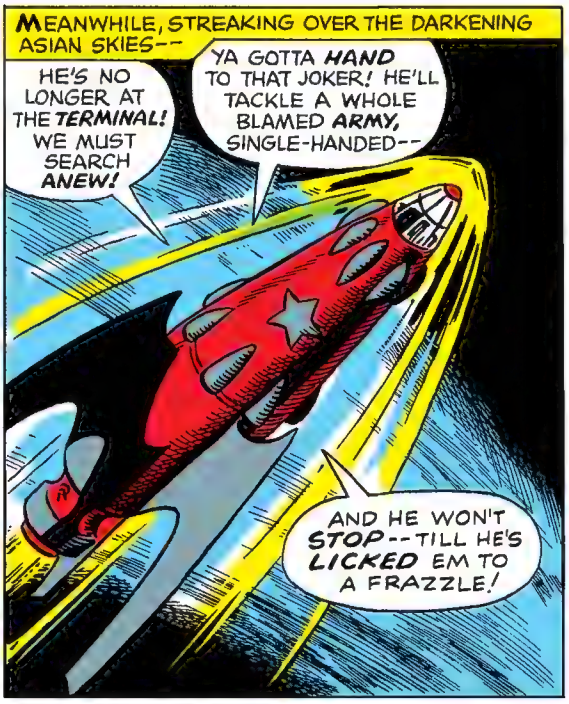
ATTENTION, LAUNCH PAD! BEGIN COUNT-DOWN ON SUBSONIC ROCKET MZ-3!
WE WILL FACE THIS TOGETHER, NICK FURY!
THEN, IN A MATTER OF MINUTES--
WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIM--IN TIME!
BUT, THERE ARE OTHERS WHO HAVE THE SAME CONCERN--
DEATH TO THE ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLES' REPUBLIC!
LONG LIVE THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN!
OUR WESTERN COMRADES HAVE SHOWN THEIR TRUE COLORS! THEY ATTACK US, EVEN NOW!
BUT WE SHALL FIGHT BACK!
EVEN NOW, OUR INVINCIBLE FORCES PROCEED TO REPEL THE ENEMY!
7

WHILE, AT THE JUBILANT MANDARIN'S CONTROL CENTRAL--
NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW!
THE HULK IS WORTH A HUNDRED DIVISIONS!
AND HE IS MINE TO COMMAND!
BUT, HE MUST LEAVE THE TERMINAL, BEFORE HE IS STOPPED!
SOMETHING MAKES ME LEAP INTO AIR AGAIN--!
I MUST FIND POWER PLANT-- BEYOND THE MOUNTAINS!
AND, AFTER A SWIFT SERIES OF THE GREATEST LEAPS EVER ATTAINED BY ANY LIVING BEING--
BUHOOM!
TANKS COME TOWARD ME-- TO SMASH THE HULK!
BUT MY STRENGTH WILL CRUSH THEM ALL!
8


THEY TRY TO ATTACK HULK--
BUT IT IS HULK WHO ATTACKS THEM!
IT CANNOT BE--!!
HE TOPPLES TANK WITH BUT ONE LEAP!
27
THOOM!!
JUMP FOR YOUR LIFE!! IT IS A DEMON WHOM WE FACE!
IRON TANKS ARE ONLY TOYS TO THE HULK!
--AND HULK IS TIRED OF PLAYING WITH TOYS!
9

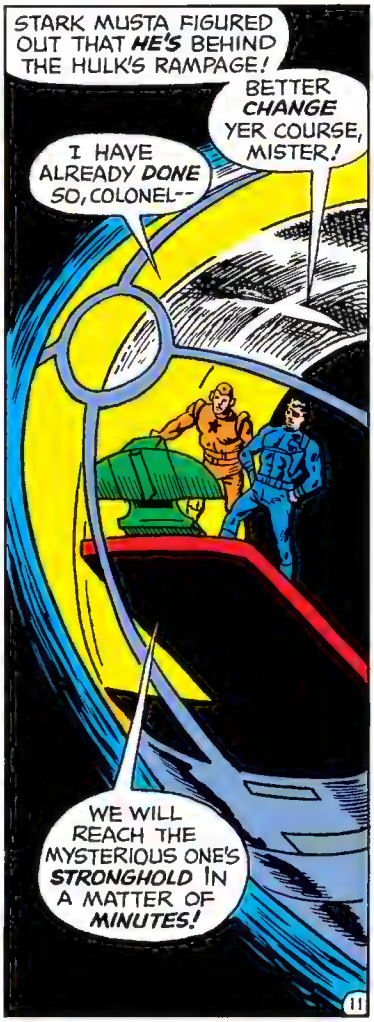

THEN, AS THE REMAINING TANKS CONTINUE TO ATTACK--IN BLIND CONFUSION--!
HE--LIFTED THE TURRET--LIKE A BOTTLE TOP!
MEN ALWAYS TRY TO CRUSH THE HULK--!
WHY SHOULDN'T HULK USE ALL HIS STRENGTH--TO SMASH PUNY ENEMIES?
SO WHY SHOULDN'T HULK STRIKE BACK??
KRUNCH!
HULK KNOWS--ALL MEN ARE ENEMIES!
BECAUSE--HULK KNOWS THE TRUTH AT LAST--
ALL MEN HATE HULK!! AND NOW--HULK WILL GIVE THEM --GOOD REASON!
10

HULK NEEDS NO TANKS-- NEEDS NO GUNS!
THE MORE I FIGHT-- THE STRONGER I GROW!


MEANWHILE, STREAKING OVER THE DARKENING ASIAN SKIES--
HE'S NO LONGER AT THE TERMINAL! WE MUST SEARCH ANEW!
YA GOTTA HAND TO THAT JOKER! HE'LL TACKLE A WHOLE BLAMED ARMY, SINGLE-HANDED--
AND HE WON'T STOP--TILL HE'S LICKED EM TO A FRAZZLE!

BUT HE MUST BE STOPPED-- BEFORE HE PLUNGES THE ENTIRE WORLD INTO ATOMIC WAR!
OKAY! OKAY! BUT IF WAR COMES, YA CAN'T PIN IT ALL ON HIM! DON'T FERGET YER OWN POSTER-PAINTIN' LITTLE PARTNERS!
I DO NOT NEED TO BE REMINDED, COLONEL!

SUDDENLY, AS RAW-EDGED TEMPERS GROW DANGEROUSLY TENSE--THE IMAGE OF TONY STARK APPEARS ON THE ROCKET'S ALL-WAVE VIDEOCEIVER--
IF MY WORDS REACH NICK FURY, ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD--
THE ORDER IS-- CODE 6!
CODE 6! THAT STANDS FOR THE MANDARIN!


STARK MUSTA FIGURED OUT THAT HE'S BEHIND THE HULK'S RAMPAGE!
BETTER CHANGE YER COURSE, MISTER!
I HAVE ALREADY DONE SO, COLONEL--
WE WILL REACH THE MYSTERIOUS ONE'S STRONGHOLD IN A MATTER OF MINUTES!

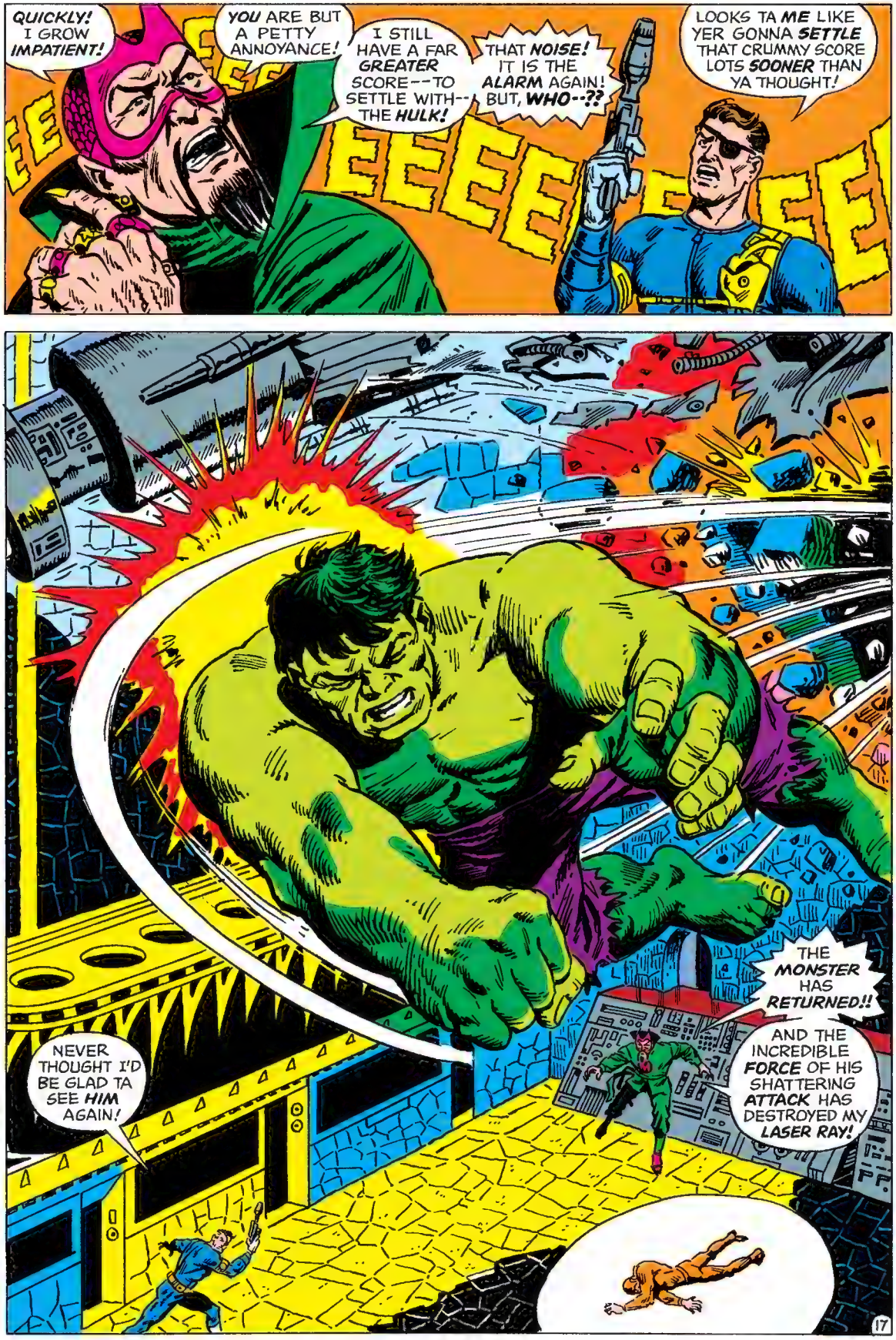
AND SPEAKING OF THE MULTI-RINGED ORIENTAL MENACE--
WHEREVER MY HIDDEN VIEWERS SCAN, IT IS THE SAME--
NUCLEAR POWERS EVERYWHERE PREPARE FOR ALL-OUT WAR!
A WAR IN WHICH THERE CAN BE NO VICTOR!
WHEEEEEEEEEEEE
SURVIVAL ALONE WILL DETERMINE THE ISSUE--
AND, ONLY THE MANDARIN SHALL BE LEFT ALIVE!
THE ALARM SOUNDS! AN INVADER HAS STRUCK! BUT ...WHO--?
THERE HE IS! LET'S GIT 'IM--!
REMAIN IN THE SHIP, FURY! IT IS OUR ONLY MEANS OF ESCAPE!
I WILL ATTACK HIM FIRST!
TWO LONE AGENTS-- AGAINST THE MANDARIN?!
WHAT MADNESS IS THIS?
IF BATTLING FOR PEACE IS MADNESS--THEN WE ARE TRULY MAD!
THOK!
THE HULK'S CONTROL DEVICE!!
WITHOUT IT, I CAN COMMAND HIM NO LONGER! HE'LL RUN AMOK!
12

AND, EVEN AS THE DESPERATE MANDARIN RECOILS IN ALARM--
WHY IS HULK HERE --FIGHTING UNKNOWN TANKS?
IT IS THE MANDARIN-- WHO IS HULK'S ENEMY!
IT IS THE MANDARIN I MUST FIND--AND DESTROY!
TANKS MOVE BACK--WAITING --FEARING HULK!
I FEEL SOMETHING FALL--FROM BACK OF MY NECK!
BUT, NOTHING MATTERS-- EXCEPT MANDARIN!
WHEREVER HE HIDES--HULK WILL FIND HIM!
HOWEVER, THE WORLD'S MOST FEARED KARATE MASTER IS DOING FAR MORE THAN MERELY HIDING--
THERE IS NO NEED TO SQUANDER THE POWER OF A RING ON ONE SUCH AS YOU!
NOW FALL! FALL TO YOUR DEATH!
TO THE SAME CERTAIN DEATH THAT AWAITS ALL MEN WHO DO NOT SERVE THE MANDARIN!
ONLY THE DEADLY ARE FIT TO RULE!
AND I AM DEADLIEST OF ALL!
FURY! I FAILED! BUT--YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE!
YOU BET YER LIFE I DO--
SOON AS I GRAB YA IN THIS FLYIN' KIDDIE-CAR!
13

YOU DID IT! BUT--HOW?
HAVING NEVER FLOWN THIS CRAFT BEFORE--HOW DID YOU ACHIEVE SO DELICATE A MANEUVER?
COME OFF IT, CHARLIE!
A SHIP'S A SHIP--AND SHIELD DIDN'T GIT WHERE IT IS BY BEIN' SCARED O HEIGHTS!
CCCP 5
SO! THEY LIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER TIME!
HE FIRES A BLAST FROM ONE OF HIS RINGS!
THEY BANK--ATTEMPTING TO TURN--TO ATTACK ME WITHOUT PAUSE--
THE UNTHINKING FOOLS!
BUT WHY AT THE WALL--INSTEAD'A US?
A SPLIT-SECOND LATER, FURY HAS HIS ANSWER--
WE'RE OUTTA CONTROL!
HE MAGNETIZED THE BLASTED WALL--DRAWIN' US INTO IT!
WE GOT NO CHOICE--WITHOUT SPROUTIN' WINGS!
WE CAN SPROUT WINGS! QUICK--SEIZE THE UNDER-DASH FORCE TUBES!
WE DARE NOT REMAIN HERE!
HE WILL STRIKE AGAIN!
SO! THEY PREFER PLUNGING TO THEIR DOOM RATHER THAN FACE MY--NO!!
THEY USE A FORM OF ENERGY BEAM--TO CUSHION THEIR FALL!
BUT IT WILL AVAIL THEM NOTHING--!
14

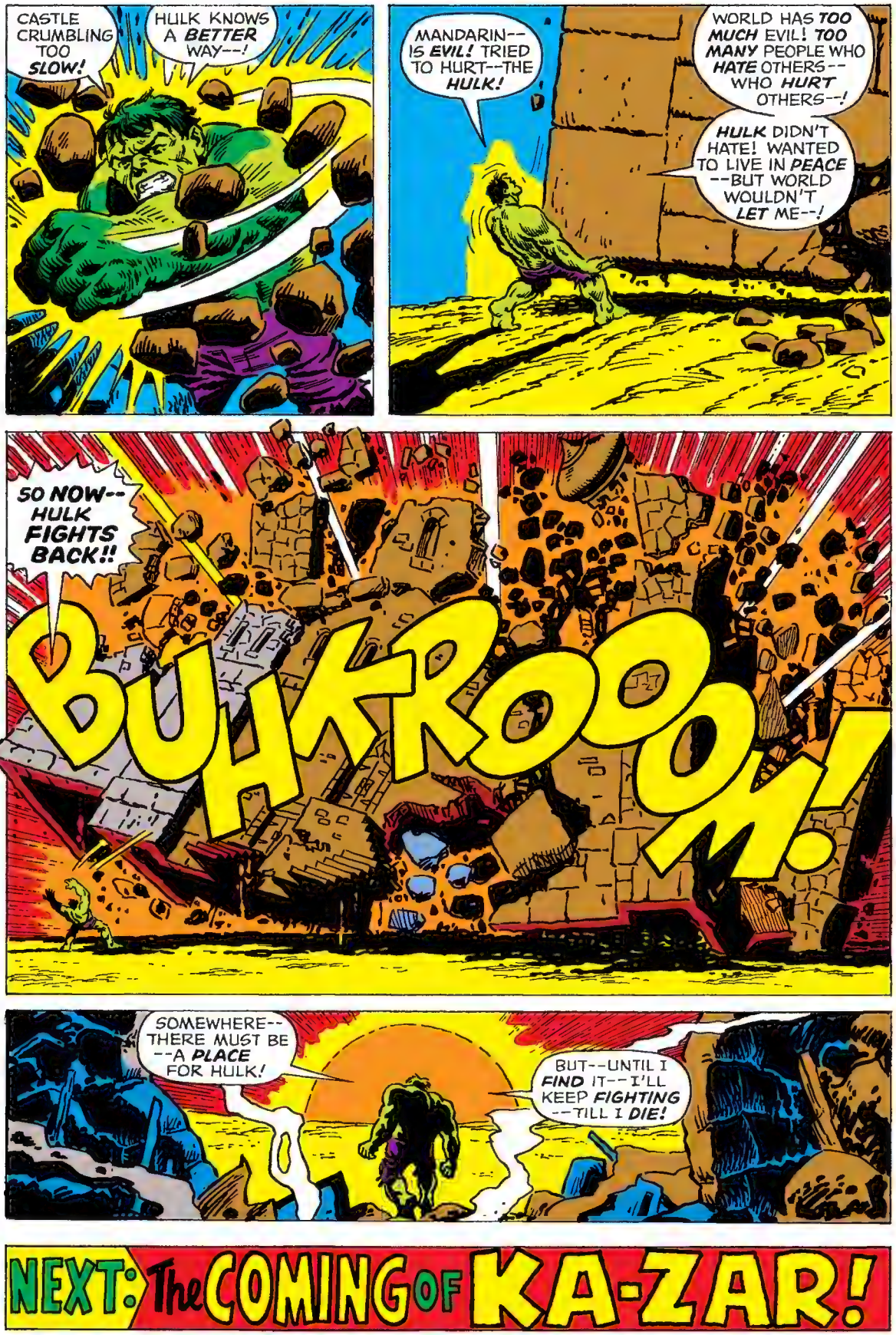
HOWEVER, NOT EVEN THE BATTLE-WISE MANDARIN IS PREPARED FOR THE BLISTERING SPEED OF NICK FURY'S COUNTERATTACK--!
THE INITIATIVE'S OURS, NOW, YURI--
AND WE AIN'T GONNA BLOW IT!
THIS GRENADE BLAST OUGHTTA KNOCK 'IM OFFA HIS CRUMMY PERCH!
GOOD SHOT, FURY!
BLAST IT! LOOKS LIKE HE CAN SAVE HIMSELF FROM A FALL--SAME AS US!
DA! --THRU THE POWER OF HIS UNCANNY ENERGY RINGS!
SO WHAT? WE STILL GOT 'IM ON THE RUN, DON'T WE?
I--AM NOT CERTAIN, COLONEL!
FOR THAT YOU SHALL PAY--MOST DEARLY!
A PITY YOU CANNOT SQUEEZE YOUR TRIGGER FINGERS AS FAST AS I CAN ACTIVATE MY RINGS!
NOW IT IS TOO LATE! MY STUN GAS WORKS--INSTANTLY!
WOULD THAT I HAD BEEN ABLE TO DEFEAT THE HULK--AS EASILY!

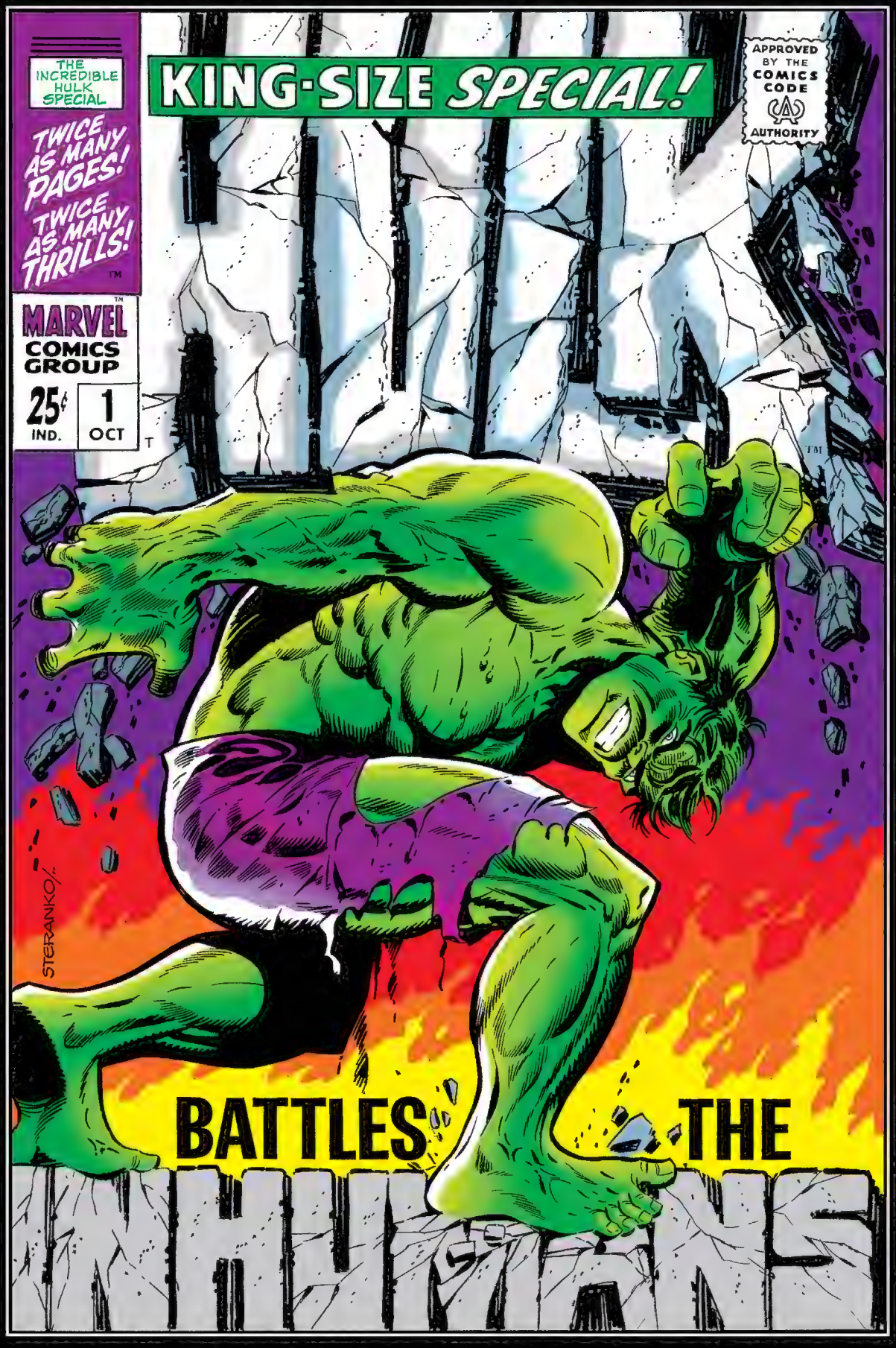
BUT, EVEN AS THE FIGHTING RAMROD OF SHIELD BEGINS TO TOTTER...
I LAUGHED AT STARK WHEN HE SHOVED THIS MINI-MASK IN MY HOLSTER!
BUT I SURE AIN'T LAUGHIN' NOW!
YURI'S DOWN! SO IT'S UP TA ME!
WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARS, HE'LL EXPECT'A FIND US BOTH OUTTA ACTION--!
THIS IS IT!
AWRIGHT, CRUM-BUM-- HERE'S WHERE I SEE WHAT MAKES YA TICK!
I SUGGEST YOU DO NOTHING RASH, DOOMED ONE--
NOT UNTIL YOU LOOK ABOVE YOU--!
I AM WELL AWARE OF THE GREAT VALUE YOU AMERICANS PUT UPON HUMAN LIFE!
A VALUE WHICH SHALL INSURE MY VICTORY!
SOME KINDA DEADLY GIZMO-- AIMED AT BREVLOV!
SHOULD YOU FIRE YOUR HAND-HELD GRENADE LAUNCHER AT ME, THE VERY SOUND OF ITS BLAST WILL ACTIVATE THE LASER RAY WHICH IS BEAMED UPON YOUR HELPLESS ALLY!
CAN'T LET 'IM MURDER YURI-- BUT, IF I GIVE IN, WE'RE BOTH DONE FOR!
THUS, I ORDER YOU TO DROP YOUR NOW-USELESS WEAPON--AT ONCE!
16


QUICKLY! I GROW IMPATIENT!
YOU ARE BUT A PETTY ANNOYANCE!
I STILL HAVE A FAR GREATER SCORE--TO SETTLE WITH--THE HULK!
THAT NOISE! IT IS THE ALARM AGAIN! BUT, WHO--??
LOOKS TA ME LIKE YER GONNA SETTLE THAT CRUMMY SCORE LOTS SOONER THAN YA THOUGHT!
EEEE

LUMBERING ABORIGINE! THIS TIME YOU SHALL NOT ESCAPE!
ESCAPE? HULK DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ESCAPE!
YOU ARE HULK'S ENEMY--I CAME BACK--TO FINISH YOU!
BUT SUDDENLY, THE GREEN-SKINNED RAMPAGER TURNS--AS HIS BESTIAL, RAGE-FILLED EYES BEHOLD--
THE ONE WHO BROUGHT ME HERE!
THE ONE WHO ALSO TRIED TO KILL ME!
WHEREVER HULK GOES--WHEREVER HULK LOOKS--HE FINDS ENEMIES! WHOLE WORLD IS AGAINST ME!
WHILE THE MONSTER IS THUS CONFUSED, ONE SINGLE RING BLAST WILL SLAY THE AMERICAN!
BUT HULK WILL NEVER STOP FIGHTING NEVER!
NO!
MANDARIN IS THRU ATTACKING!
HULK IS STRONGEST! ONLY HULK WILL STRIKE!

NOW--YOU'LL FEEL THE POWER OF THE HULK!
EVERYONE IS HULK'S ENEMY! SO--EVERYONE MUST FALL!
YURI!! SNAP OUT OF IT, MAN!
THE GAS--HAS WORN OFF, COLONEL--!
WE'LL NEVER CATCH UP WITH THE MANDARIN NOW!
BUT WE GOTTA CUT OUTTA HERE --PRONTO!
QUICKLY! FOLLOW ME--!
THE HULK'S WRECKIN' THE JOINT--SINGLE-HANDED--
'N THAT'S OKAY WITH ME!
MY CREW HAS SIGHTED US!
THEIR RETRO-BEAM CAN PLUCK US FROM THE WALL!
THEY BETTER DO IT FAST--
OR THERE AIN'T GONNA BE NO WALL UP HERE!
THE WHOLE SHOOTIN' MESS IS FALLIN' APART!
ANYWAY, WHATEVER THE MANDARIN WUZ AFTER--I FIGGER HE MIGHT AS WELL FORGET IT NOW!


CASTLE CRUMBLING TOO SLOW!
HULK KNOWS A BETTER WAY--!
MANDARIN--IS EVIL! TRIED TO HURT--THE HULK!
WORLD HAS TOO MUCH EVIL! TOO MANY PEOPLE WHO HATE OTHERS--WHO HURT OTHERS--!
HULK DIDN'T HATE! WANTED TO LIVE IN PEACE --BUT WORLD WOULDN'T LET ME--!
SO NOW--HULK FIGHTS BACK!!
BUHKROOM!
SOMEWHERE--THERE MUST BE --A PLACE FOR HULK!
BUT--UNTIL I FIND IT--I'LL KEEP FIGHTING --TILL I DIE!
NEXT: The COMING OF KA-ZAR!

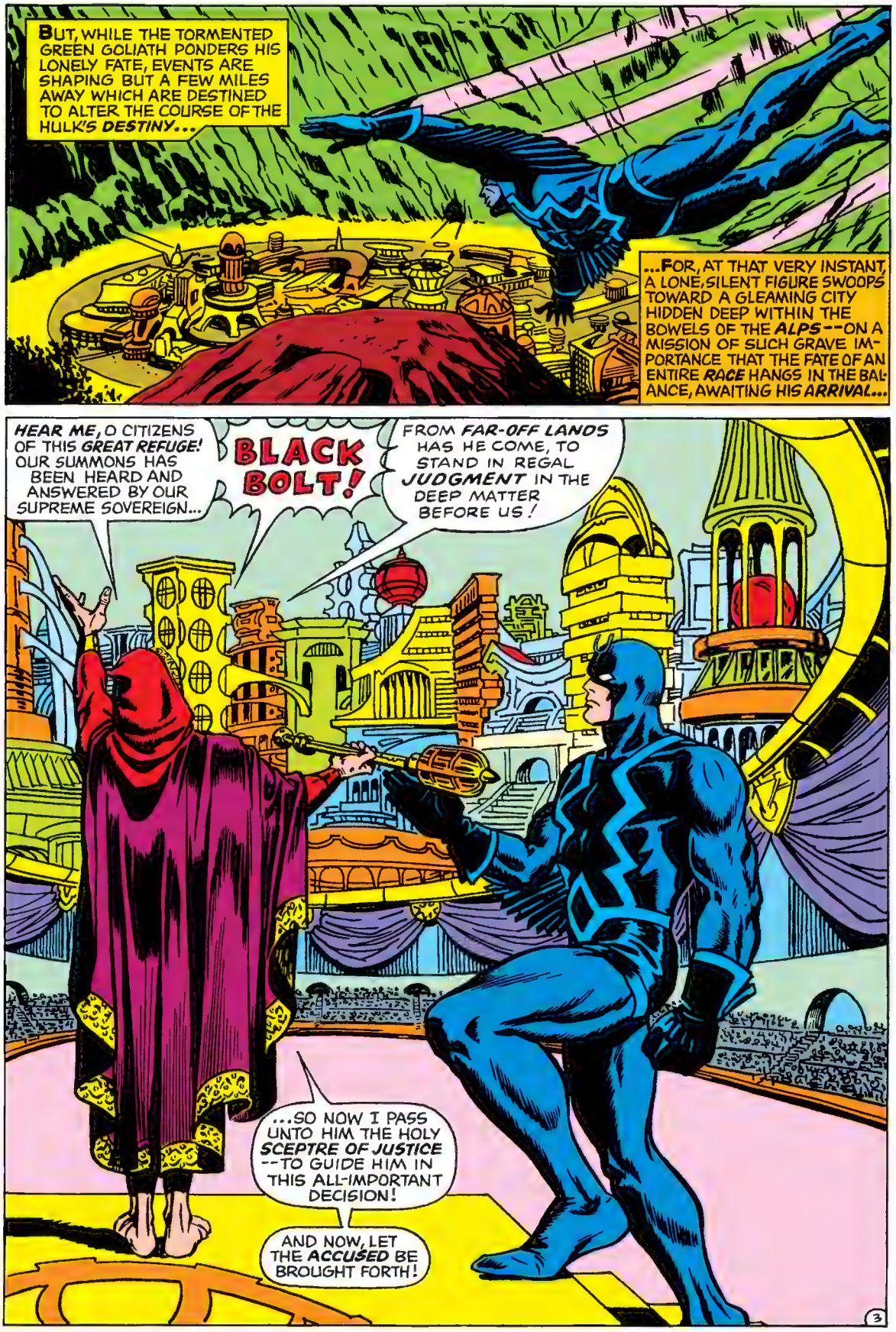

THE INCREDIBLE HULK SPECIAL
TWICE AS MANY PAGES!
TWICE AS MANY THRILLS!
KING-SIZE SPECIAL!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
25¢ IND.
1 OCT
STERANKO
BATTLES THE
INCREDIBLE HULK

THE INCREDIBLE HULK MEETS THE IMPOSSIBLE INHUMANS!

"A REFUGE DIVIDED!"

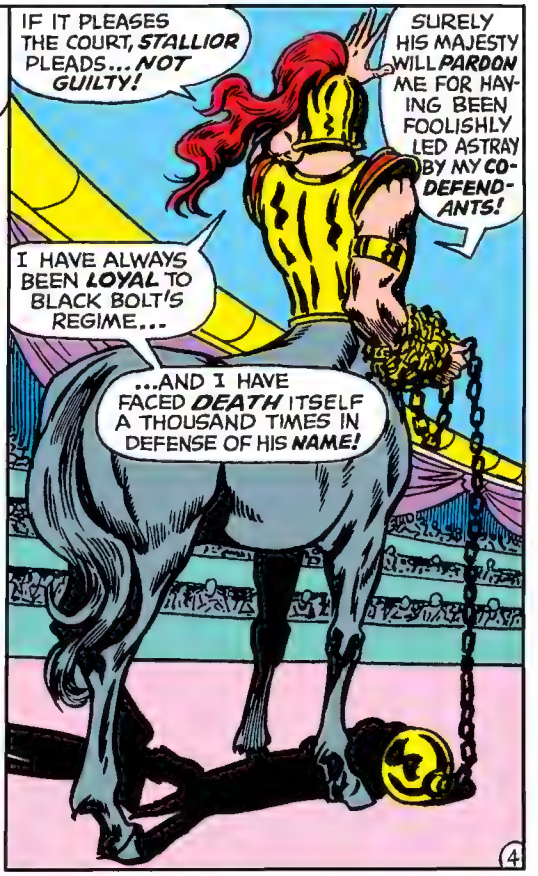
FOR WEEKS HULK HAS WANDERED THIS STRANGE LAND--SEEN ONLY STRANGERS! AND ALL OF THEM FEAR HULK!
AIIEEE!! WHAT MONSTROUS VISION LOOMS ON THE PATH BEFORE ME?
IT'S LIKE SOME DREAD NIGHTMARE COME TO LIFE!
BUT, 'TIS NO MERE DREAM-BORN VISION WHICH HAS SO STARTLED THE EUROPEAN PEASANT! IT IS, INSTEAD, THE VERY REAL GAMMA-RAY-SPAWNED CREATURE KNOWN TO MANKIND AS...THE HULK--DESPERATELY SCOURING THE UNFAMILIAR COUNTRYSIDE FOR A SINGLE BEING HE CAN CALL...FRIEND! AND THAT, HULKOPHILE, IS ONLY THE BEGINNING! THERE ARE 51 ACTION-PACKLD PAGES AHEAD--SO CATCH THE CREDITS AND AWA-A-A-AY WE'LL GO!
STAN LEE PROUDLY PRESENTS A GARY FRIEDRICH MARIE SEVERIN SUPER-LENGTH SPECTACULAR!
INKED BY SYD SHORES AND ALMOST THE WHOLE BLAMED BULLPEN! LETTERED BY I. WATANABE

WAIT! HULK WANTS TO...IT'S NO USE! ONE LOOK AT HULK... AND MEN ALWAYS FLEE!
LEGENDS HAVE FORETOLD THE COMING OF SUCH A DEMON!
I MUST WARN THE VILLAGERS...BEFORE HE KILLS US ALL!
BUT, HULK DOESN'T CARE! LET THEM ALL RUN FROM ME!
HULK HAS NO TIME TO FEEL SORRY FOR HIMSELF!
ALL MEN ARE HULK'S ENEMIES...
...SO HULK MUST STRIKE FIRST...
...BEFORE THEY CAN DESTROY HULK!
MAN MUST BE RUNNING TO WARN OTHERS...
URRRUNH!
...BUT HULK WILL STOP HIM--BEFORE MORE MEN COME TO HOUND ME!
HULAAAAAAAA!
BEFORE PUNY PEASANT REACHES VILLAGE...
KAWAWOOOM!!!
...HULK WILL BRING WHOLE MOUNTAINSIDE DOWN ABOUT HIM!
KAVOOOOOM!
AN AVALANCHE ...THE VERY MOUNTAINSIDE CRASHING DOWN IN FRONT OF ME!
THE MONSTER MUST HAVE CAUSED IT...ALL THE MORE REASON I MUST WARN MY NEIGHBORS!
HULK DID NOT WISH TO KILL THE MAN...ONLY SHOW WHAT POWER IS HIS!
HULK WILL BE GONE BEFORE MEN CAN COME AFTER ME!
IF THEY COME AT ALL-- AFTER SEEING WHAT HULK COULD DO TO THEM!
HULK DOESN'T FEAR THEM... HULK JUST DOESN'T WANT TO BE BOTHERED!
2

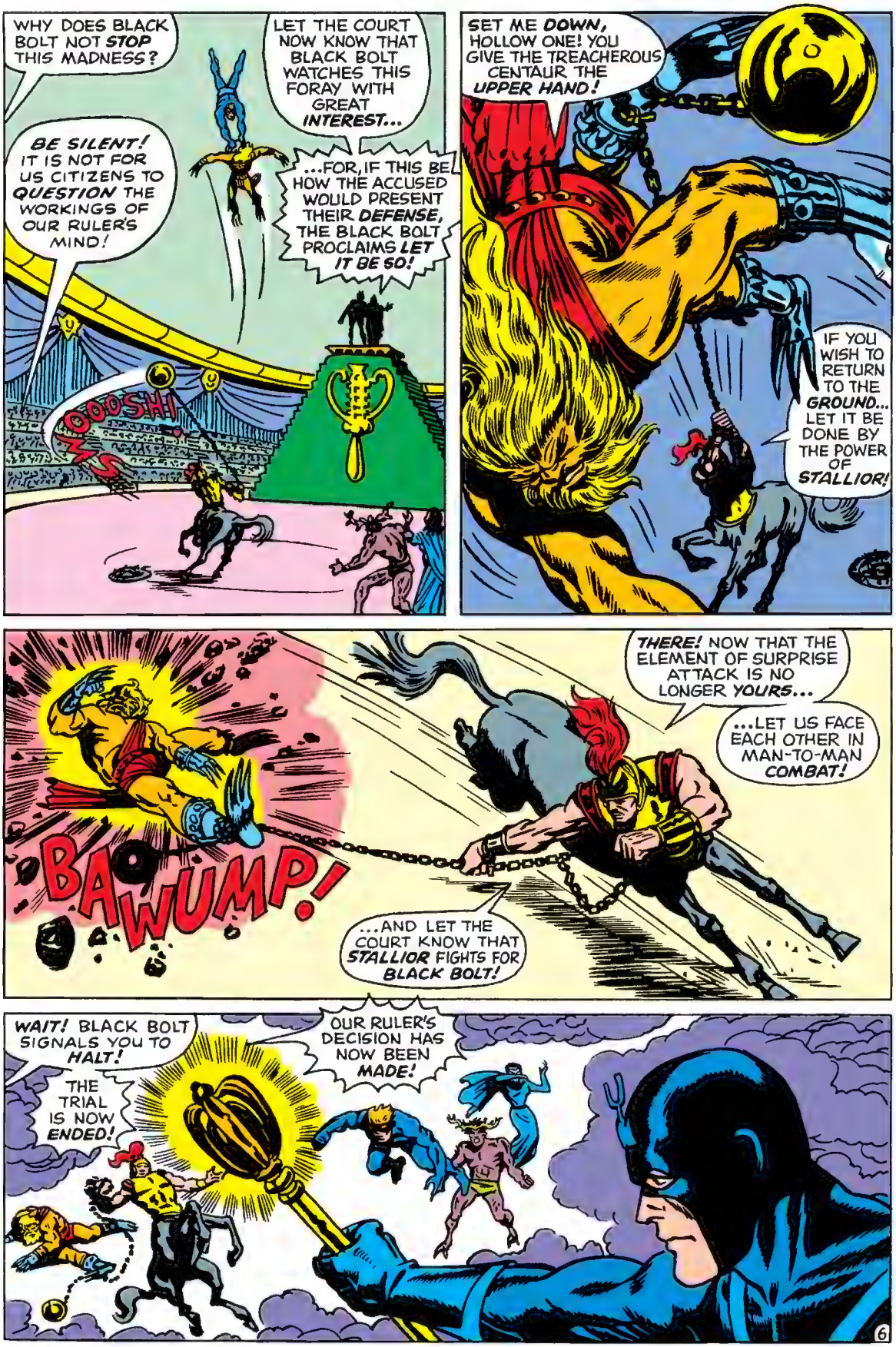

BUT, WHILE THE TORMENTED GREEN GOLIATH PONDERS HIS LONELY FATE, EVENTS ARE SHAPING BUT A FEW MILES AWAY WHICH ARE DESTINED TO ALTER THE COURSE OF THE HULK'S DESTINY...
...FOR, AT THAT VERY INSTANT, A LONE, SILENT FIGURE SWOOPS TOWARD A GLEAMING CITY HIDDEN DEEP WITHIN THE BOWELS OF THE ALPS--ON A MISSION OF SUCH GRAVE IMPORTANCE THAT THE FATE OF AN ENTIRE RACE HANGS IN THE BALANCE, AWAITING HIS ARRIVAL...
HEAR ME, O CITIZENS OF THIS GREAT REFUGE! OUR SUMMONS HAS BEEN HEARD AND ANSWERED BY OUR SUPREME SOVEREIGN...
BLACK BOLT!
FROM FAR-OFF LANOS HAS HE COME, TO STAND IN REGAL JUDGMENT IN THE DEEP MATTER BEFORE US!
...SO NOW I PASS UNTO HIM THE HOLY SCEPTRE OF JUSTICE --TO GUIDE HIM IN THIS ALL-IMPORTANT DECISION!
AND NOW, LET THE ACCUSED BE BROUGHT FORTH!
3

FALCONA... THE HUNTRESS!
LEONUS... THE LION-MAN!
AIREO... THE FLOATING MAN!
TIMBERIUS... THE TREE-DWELLER!
STALLIOR... THE CENTAUR!
AND NEBULO... HE WHO APPEARS BUT AS AN UNCAST SHADOW!
ALL SIX STAND ACCUSED OF HIGH TREASON!
FOR, THEY SIX DID LEAD A REVOLT AGAINST THE ABSENT BLACK BOLT'S RULE!

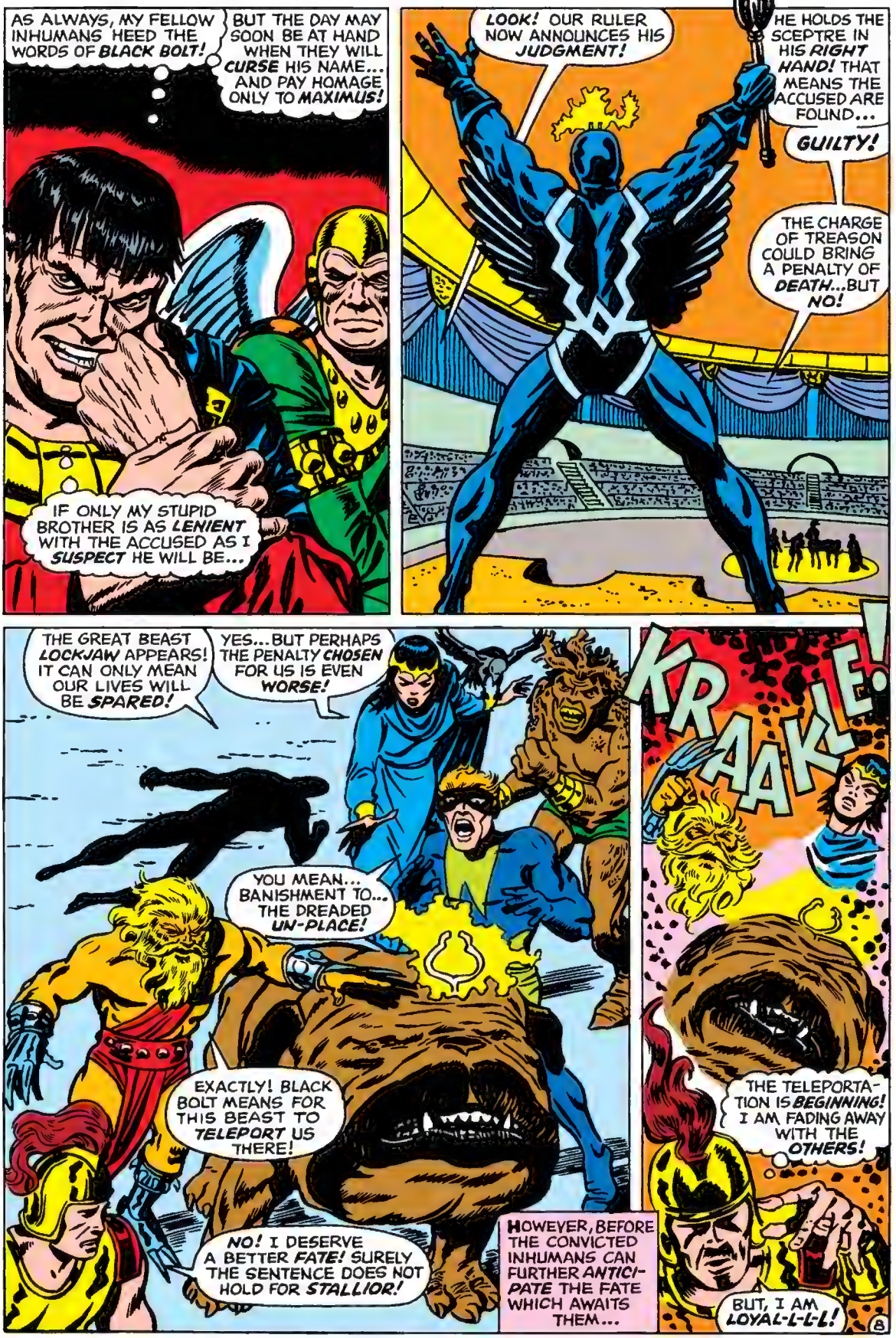
AND NOW, THE TRIAL SHALL BEGIN!
THE WISHES AND THOUGHTS OF OUR MUTE RULER SHALL BE TRANSMITTED UNTO ME--AND I, IN TURN WILL RELAY THEM TO THE COURT!
NOW, IF THE ACCUSED WOULD DEFEND THEMSEVES --LET SUCH DEFENSE BEGIN! SO SAYS BLACK BOLT!
THE CENTAUR, STALLIOR BEGS THE COURTS RECOGNITION--THEREFORE LET THE FLOOR BE HIS!

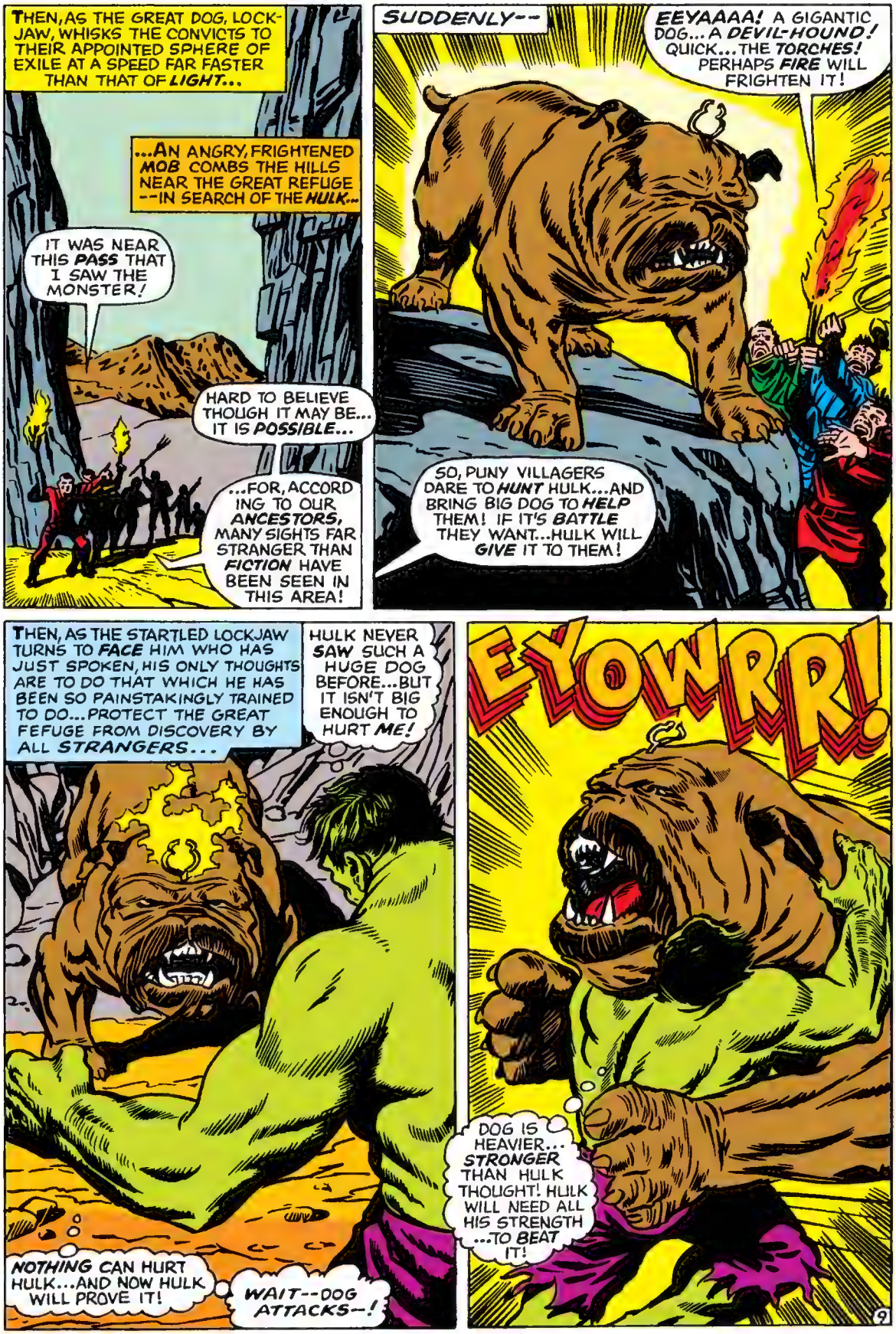

IF IT PLEASES THE COURT, STALLIOR PLEADS... NOT GUILTY!
SURELY HIS MAJESTY WILL PARDON ME FOR HAVING BEEN FOOLISHLY LED ASTRAY BY MY CO-DEFENDANTS!
I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN LOYAL TO BLACK BOLT'S REGIME...
...AND I HAVE FACED DEATH ITSELF A THOUSAND TIMES IN DEFENSE OF HIS NAME!

TREACHEROUS COWARD... YOU BETRAY OUR CAUSE FOR YOUR OWN WELL-BEING!
TRUE...AND HIS REWARD SHALL BE...DEATH!
FOOLS! ATTACKING ME CAN ONLY FURTHER AROUSE THE WRATH OF BLACK BOLT!
YOUR TAUNTS WILL AVAIL YOU NAUGHT! WE WILL CRUSH YOU...BEFORE THE ACCURSED BLACK BOLT CAN INTERFERE!
SWOOSH!
KLANG!
WUMMMMP!
AND IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT THE CLAWS OF LEONUS STRIKE THE FATAL BLOW!
THE VERY FATE YOU SOUGHT TO ESCAPE...
SCRATCH!
...NOW BECOMES IN-ESCAPABLE!
DEATH ITSELF NOW LIES BUT ANOTHER BLOW AWAY!
STOP! ARE YOU SO BLINDED BY HATRED THAT YOU CANNOT SEE WHAT YOU ARE DOING?
BY KILLING THE CENTAUR... YOU ONLY LEND CREDENCE TO HIS PLEA IN THE COURT'S EYES!
AND THAT CAN ONLY ASSURE THAT BLACK BOLT WILL JUDGE US GUILTY!
VWOOSH!


WHY DOES BLACK BOLT NOT STOP THIS MADNESS?
LET THE COURT NOW KNOW THAT BLACK BOLT WATCHES THIS FORAY WITH GREAT INTEREST...
BE SILENT! IT IS NOT FOR US CITIZENS TO QUESTION THE WORKINGS OF OUR RULER'S MIND!
...FOR, IF THIS BE HOW THE ACCUSED WOULD PRESENT THEIR DEFENSE, THE BLACK BOLT PROCLAIMS LET IT BE SO!
OOOSH!
SET ME DOWN, HOLLOW ONE! YOU GIVE THE TREACHEROUS CENTAUR THE UPPER HAND!
IF YOU WISH TO RETURN TO THE GROUND... LET IT BE DONE BY THE POWER OF STALLIOR!
BA WUMP!
THERE! NOW THAT THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE ATTACK IS NO LONGER YOURS...
...LET US FACE EACH OTHER IN MAN-TO-MAN COMBAT!
...AND LET THE COURT KNOW THAT STALLIOR FIGHTS FOR BLACK BOLT!
WAIT! BLACK BOLT SIGNALS YOU TO HALT!
THE TRIAL IS NOW ENDED!
OUR RULER'S DECISION HAS NOW BEEN MADE!
6

WHAT? BUT I HAVE NOT YET BEEN GIVEN A CHANCE TO PROVE MY LOYALTY...
...BY DEFEATING THESE INSURRECTIONISTS!
A PITY, COWARD--SINCE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN YOU WHO TASTED THE BITTER WINE OF DEFEAT!
BE SILENT! THE PATIENCE OF BLACK BOLT GROWS SHORT!
AND, SINCE YOUR FATE HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED...
...THERE IS NO PURPOSE FOR FURTHER BICKERING AMONG YOU!
PERHAPS NOT...BUT THE TRUE GOAL OF BLACK BOLT IS TO SILENCE US... SO THAT NO OTHER CITIZENS OF THE GREAT REFUGE WILL BELIEVE...
...THAT BLACK BOLT IS UNFIT TO RULE THE INHUMANS... BECAUSE HE IS TOO FULL OF THE MILK OF HUMAN-LIKE KINDNESS!
THE LION-MAN IS RIGHT! MY BROTHER FEARS HIS SUBJECTS WILL REALIZE IT IS I, MAXIMUS, WHO AM THEIR TRUE SOVEREIGN!
THOUGH BLACK BOLT CALLS ME MAD--THE TRUTH IS THOSE ACCUSATIONS ARE BUT A GUISE UNDER WHICH HE RETAINS A THRONE WHICH IS RIGHTFULLY MINE!
IF TRUE JUSTICE IS TO BE DONE...LET BLACK BOLT BE TRIED--AND THESE SIX PATRIOTS BE SET FREE!
OUR RULER ASKS THAT YOU HEED NOT THE MAD RAVINGS OF HIS BROTHER...FOR HE FEELS NAUGHT BUT PITY!
AND HE PRAYS THAT THIS COURT OF CITIZENS NOW GIVE HIM THEIR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION--WHILE HE PASSES JUDGMENT ON THOSE WHO WOULD DESTROY US!

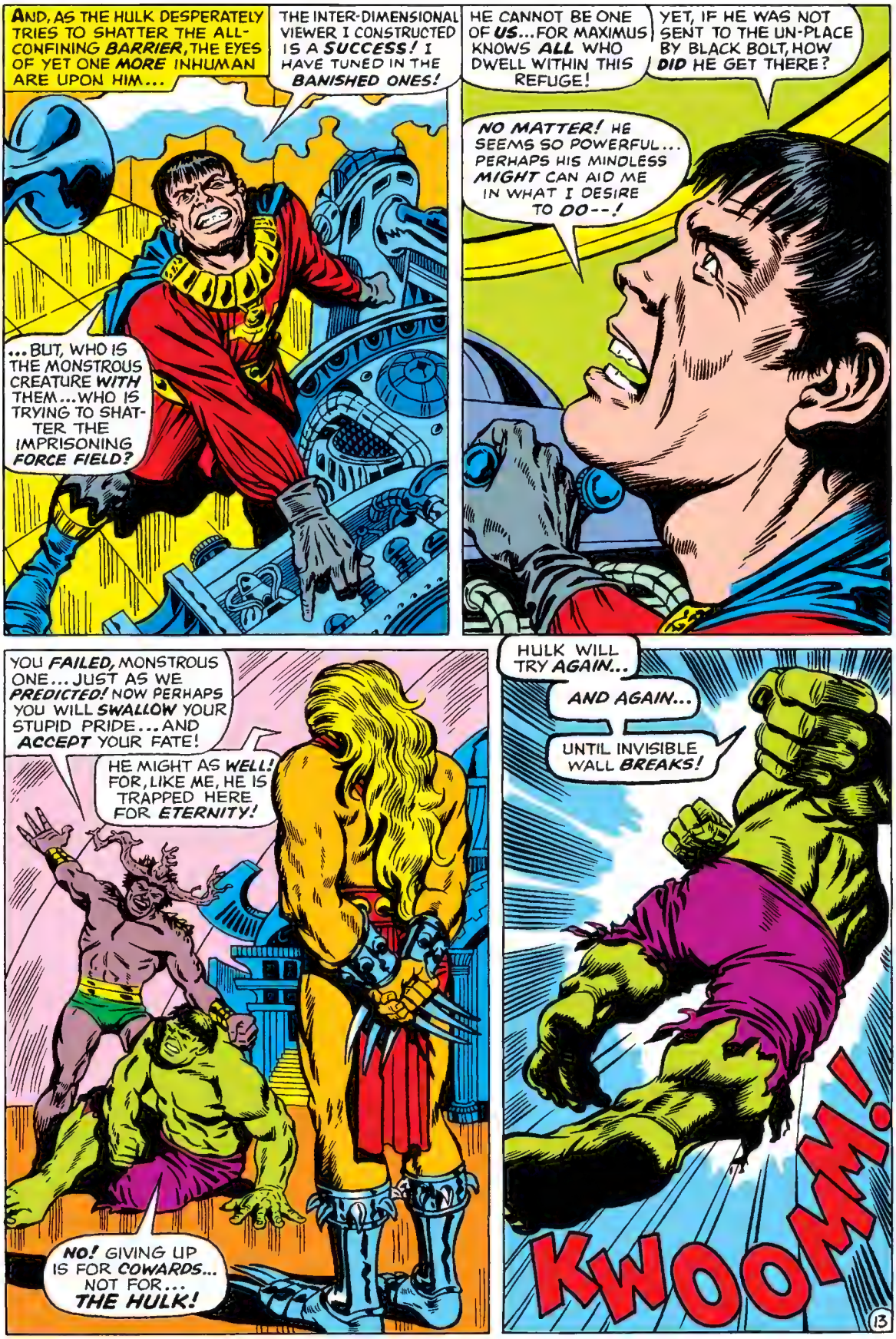

AS ALWAYS, MY FELLOW INHUMANS HEED THE WORDS OF BLACK BOLT!
BUT THE DAY MAY SOON BE AT HAND WHEN THEY WILL CURSE HIS NAME... AND PAY HOMAGE ONLY TO MAXIMUS!
IF ONLY MY STUPID BROTHER IS AS LENIENT WITH THE ACCUSED AS I SUSPECT HE WILL BE...
LOOK! OUR RULER NOW ANNOUNCES HIS JUDGMENT!
HE HOLDS THE SCEPTRE IN HIS RIGHT HAND! THAT MEANS THE ACCUSED ARE FOUND...
GUILTY!
THE CHARGE OF TREASON COULD BRING A PENALTY OF DEATH...BUT NO!
THE GREAT BEAST LOCKJAW APPEARS! IT CAN ONLY MEAN OUR LIVES WILL BE SPARED!
YES...BUT PERHAPS THE PENALTY CHOSEN FOR US IS EVEN WORSE!
YOU MEAN... BANISHMENT TO... THE DREADED UN-PLACE!
EXACTLY! BLACK BOLT MEANS FOR THIS BEAST TO TELEPORT US THERE!
NO! I DESERVE A BETTER FATE! SURELY THE SENTENCE DOES NOT HOLD FOR STALLIOR!
HOWEVER, BEFORE THE CONVICTED INHUMANS CAN FURTHER ANTICIPATE THE FATE WHICH AWAITS THEM...
KRAAKLE!
THE TELEPORTATION IS BEGINNING! I AM FADING AWAY WITH THE OTHERS!
BUT, I AM LOYAL-L-L-L!
8


THEN, AS THE GREAT DOG, LOCK-JAW, WHISKS THE CONVICTS TO THEIR APPOINTED SPHERE OF EXILE AT A SPEED FAR FASTER THAN THAT OF LIGHT...
...AN ANGRY, FRIGHTENED MOB COMBS THE HILLS NEAR THE GREAT REFUGE --IN SEARCH OF THE HULK...
IT WAS NEAR THIS PASS THAT I SAW THE MONSTER!
HARD TO BELIEVE THOUGH IT MAY BE... IT IS POSSIBLE...
...FOR, ACCORDING TO OUR ANCESTORS, MANY SIGHTS FAR STRANGER THAN FICTION HAVE BEEN SEEN IN THIS AREA!
SUDDENLY--
EEYAAAA! A GIGANTIC DOG... A DEVIL-HOUND! QUICK... THE TORCHES! PERHAPS FIRE WILL FRIGHTEN IT!
SO, PUNY VILLAGERS DARE TO HUNT HULK... AND BRING BIG DOG TO HELP THEM! IF IT'S BATTLE THEY WANT... HULK WILL GIVE IT TO THEM!
THEN, AS THE STARTLED LOCKJAW TURNS TO FACE HIM WHO HAS JUST SPOKEN, HIS ONLY THOUGHTS ARE TO DO THAT WHICH HE HAS BEEN SO PAINSTAKINGLY TRAINED TO DO... PROTECT THE GREAT FEFUGE FROM DISCOVERY BY ALL STRANGERS...
HULK NEVER SAW SUCH A HUGE DOG BEFORE... BUT IT ISN'T BIG ENOUGH TO HURT ME!
NOTHING CAN HURT HULK... AND NOW HULK WILL PROVE IT!
WAIT--DOG ATTACKS--!
EYOWRR!
DOG IS HEAVIER... STRONGER THAN HULK THOUGHT! HULK WILL NEED ALL HIS STRENGTH ...TO BEAT IT!
9

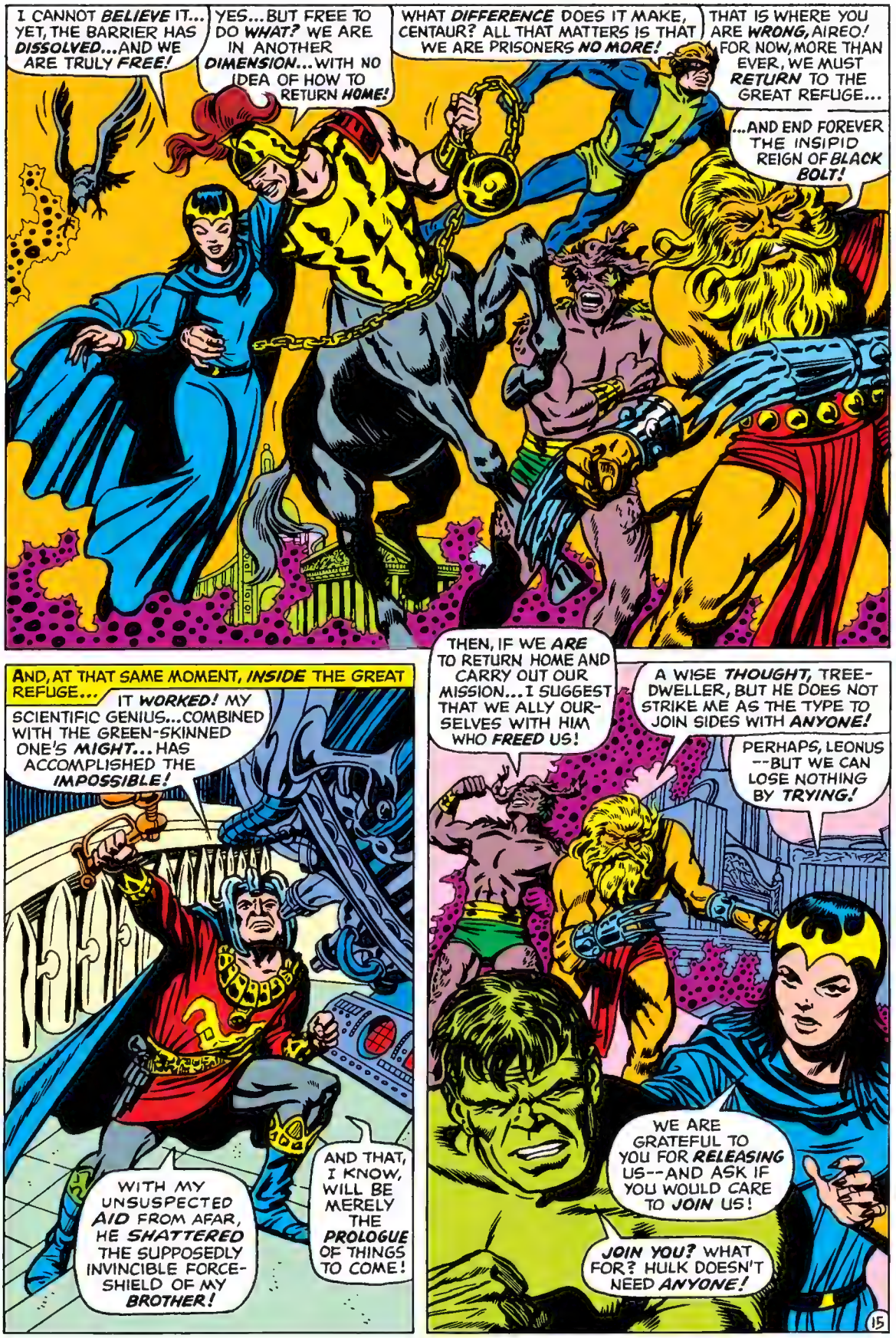
BUT... UUNNNHHH... HULK WILL WIN!
GROWRR!
HOWEVER, AS THE HULK IS ABOUT TO HURL HIS CANINE ADVERSARY AGAINST THE JAGGED MOUNTAINSIDE...
WHAT IS HAPPENING?
FEEL STRANGE ...AS IF FLYING THRU SPACE..!
AND, THOUGH THE GREAT GREEN GARGOYLE CAN HARDLY COMPREHEND WHAT IS TAKING PLACE...
HULK BEING PULLED SOMEWHERE...BY SOME NEW, POWERFUL FORCE! BUT WHERE...HOW?
...IT SHOULD BE QUITE CLEAR TO ALL INHUMANS-IDOLIZERS THAT LOCKJAW, IN SELF-DEFENSE, HAS ONCE MORE BROUGHT INTO PLAY HIS INTER-DIMENSIONAL TELEPORTATION POWERS...
ALTHOUGH NOT WITH THE MOST SUCCESSFUL OF RESULTS...
HULK DOESN'T CARE WHERE HE'S GOING!
ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT DOG IS BEATEN ...HERE AND NOW!
SO, HAVING FAILED TO STARTLE THE HULK INTO RELEASING HIS IRON-HARD GRIP, LOCKJAW INSTANTANEOUSLY RETURNS TO EARTH...
BA WUM MP!
10

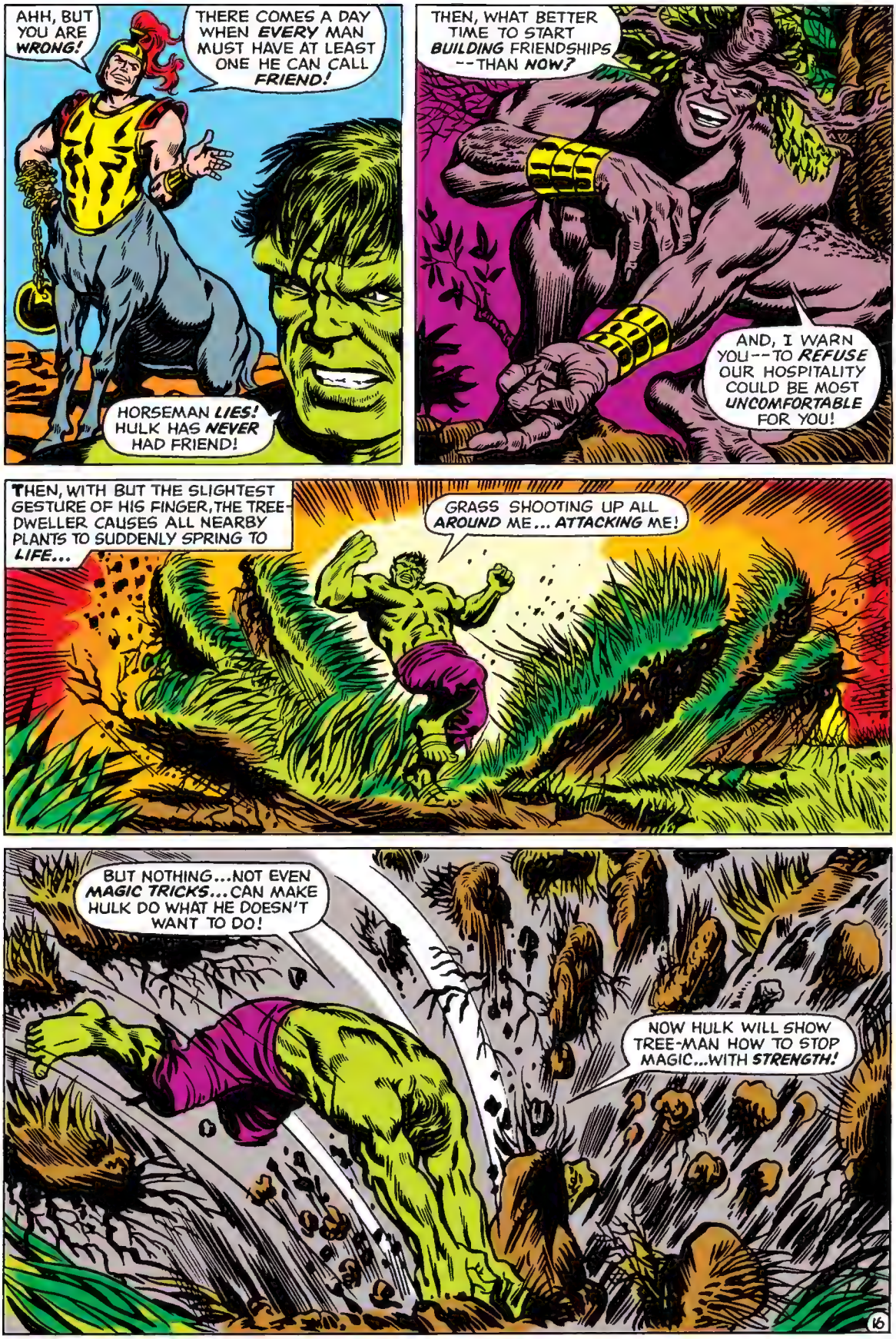
HULK DOESN'T UNDERSTAND! WHEN I GRABBED DOG, WE WENT FLYING INTO SPACE! NOW, WHEN I HIT HIM, WE CRASH BACK TO WHERE WE STARTED!
BUT, NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THAT NOW! DOG IS STILL STANDING... CHALLENGING HULK! SO HULK MUST ATTACK!
HOWEVER, AS THE HULK CLOSES IN...
CRZZZH!
...LOCKJAW ONCE AGAIN UTILIZES HIS TELEPORTATIONAL POWERS... THIS TIME WHISKING HIS FOE TO THE UN-PLACE--AND LEAVING HIM THERE...
LOOK! LOCKJAW HAS BROUGHT ANOTHER DOOMED ONE!
BUT, I HAVE NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE IN THE GREAT REFUGE!
WHO ARE YOU?
I AM... HULK!
BA WUMP!
11

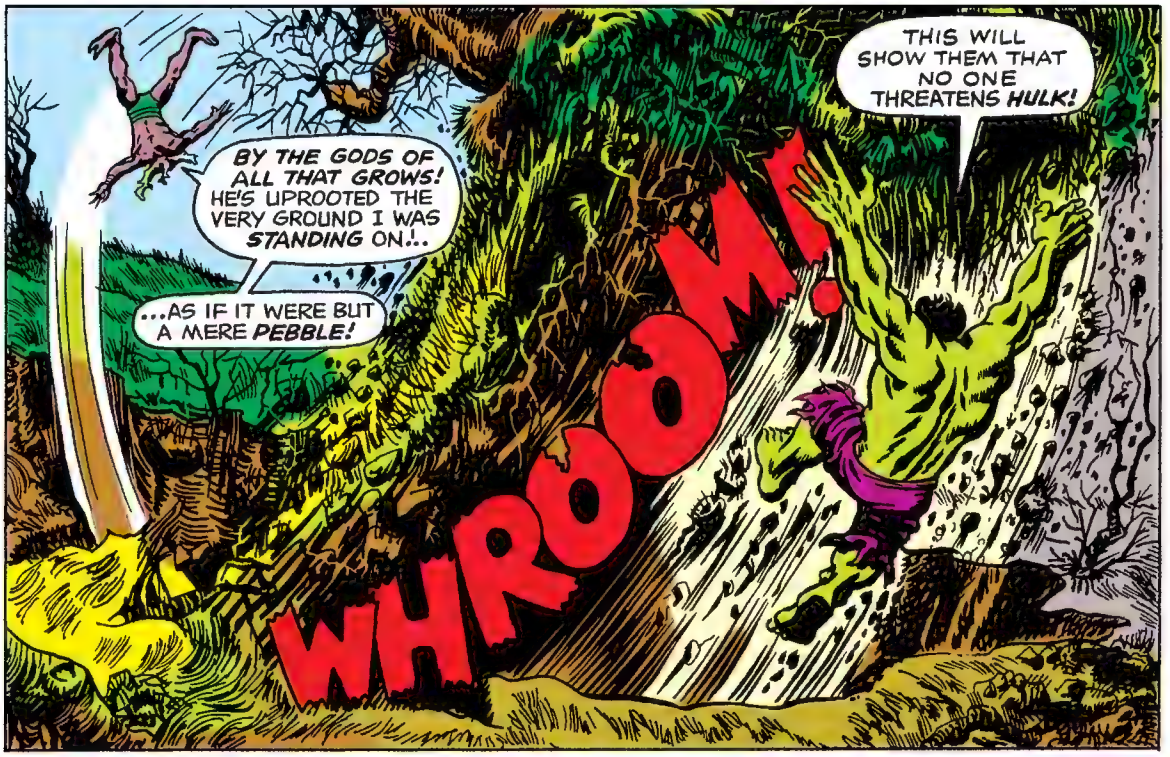
PERHAPS BLACK BOLT SENT HIM HERE...TO LEARN IF I AM TRULY LOYAL!
NO ONE SENT HULK! DOG TRICKED HULK AND BROUGHT ME HERE!
IT MUST BE TRUE! HE IS NOT AN INHUMAN!
THEN WHAT IS HE? IT IS CERTAIN THAT ONE WHO LOOKS SO HORRIBLY GROTESQUE IS NOT HUMAN!
WAIT! LET FALCONA SPEAK TO THE NEWCOMER!
WE DO NOT WISH TO HARM YOU, GREEN-SKINNED ONE! WE ONLY SEEK TO LEARN WHO YOU ARE...AND WHERE YOU CAME FROM!
HULK DOESN'T HAVE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS!
TRUE! BUT SINCE WE ARE ALL IMPRISONED HERE...WE MIGHT AS WELL BE FRIENDLY!
PRISON? NO PRISON CAN HOLD HULK!
AHH, BUT YOU ARE WRONG! WE ARE TRAPPED HERE BY AN INVISIBLE BARRIER--WHICH CAN ONLY BE BROKEN BY BLACK BOLT!
YOU'RE WRONG! BARRIER CAN ALSO BE BROKEN BY HULK!
NO! WAIT! YOU'LL ONLY INJURE YOURSELF...AND THERE IS NO ONE HERE TO ATTEND THE WOUNDED!
HULK WON'T NEED DOCTOR! HULK WILL BE FREE!
DRAUG!!
12


AND, AS THE HULK DESPERATELY TRIES TO SHATTER THE ALL-CONFINING BARRIER, THE EYES OF YET ONE MORE INHUMAN ARE UPON HIM...
THE INTER-DIMENSIONAL VIEWER I CONSTRUCTED IS A SUCCESS! I HAVE TUNED IN THE BANISHED ONES!
...BUT, WHO IS THE MONSTROUS CREATURE WITH THEM...WHO IS TRYING TO SHATTER THE IMPRISONING FORCE FIELD?
HE CANNOT BE ONE OF US...FOR MAXIMUS KNOWS ALL WHO DWELL WITHIN THIS REFUGE!
YET, IF HE WAS NOT SENT TO THE UN-PLACE BY BLACK BOLT, HOW DID HE GET THERE?
NO MATTER! HE SEEMS SO POWERFUL... PERHAPS HIS MINDLESS MIGHT CAN AID ME IN WHAT I DESIRE TO DO--!
YOU FAILED, MONSTROUS ONE... JUST AS WE PREDICTED! NOW PERHAPS YOU WILL SWALLOW YOUR STUPID PRIDE...AND ACCEPT YOUR FATE!
HE MIGHT AS WELL! FOR, LIKE ME, HE IS TRAPPED HERE FOR ETERNITY!
NO! GIVING UP IS FOR COWARDS... NOT FOR... THE HULK!
HULK WILL TRY AGAIN...
AND AGAIN...
UNTIL INVISIBLE WALL BREAKS!
KWOOM!
13

BUT...
YOUR STRENGTH AND COURAGE ARE TO BE APPLAUDED, BRUTE... BUT SURELY NOW YOU SEE IT IS HOPELESS!
FROM THE LOOK IN HIS EYE, I WOULD WAGER HE IS ANYTHING BUT CONVINCED!
NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES...
...OR HOW TIRED HULK GETS...
HULK WILL NEVER QUIT...
...UNTIL HULK IS FREE!
WATCH HIM! HIS STRENGTH IS INCREDIBLE! IS IT POSSIBLE THAT HE COULD--?
NO! ONLY THE SHATTERING SOUND OF BLACK BOLT'S VOICE CAN PENETRATE SUCH A BARRIER!
SO IT HAS BEEN WRITTEN, AIREO ...BUT LOOK AT THE CREATURE...TENSING HIS MUSCLES ...BRACING HIMSELF FOR ONE FINAL, ALL-POWERFUL BLOW!
I BROKE THROUGH! NOW HULK HAS PROVED THAT NO PRISON IS STRONG ENOUGH TO KEEP HIM!
CRACK!
14


I CANNOT BELIEVE IT... YET, THE BARRIER HAS DISSOLVED...AND WE ARE TRULY FREE!
YES...BUT FREE TO DO WHAT? WE ARE IN ANOTHER DIMENSION...WITH NO IDEA OF HOW TO RETURN HOME!
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE, CENTAUR? ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT WE ARE PRISONERS NO MORE!
THAT IS WHERE YOU ARE WRONG, AIREO! FOR NOW, MORE THAN EVER, WE MUST RETURN TO THE GREAT REFUGE...
...AND END FOREVER THE INSIPID REIGN OF BLACK BOLT!
AND, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, INSIDE THE GREAT REFUGE...
IT WORKED! MY SCIENTIFIC GENIUS...COMBINED WITH THE GREEN-SKINNED ONE'S MIGHT...HAS ACCOMPLISHED THE IMPOSSIBLE!
WITH MY UNSUSPECTED AID FROM AFAR, HE SHATTERED THE SUPPOSEDLY INVINCIBLE FORCE-SHIELD OF MY BROTHER!
AND THAT, I KNOW, WILL BE MERELY THE PROLOGUE OF THINGS TO COME!
THEN, IF WE ARE TO RETURN HOME AND CARRY OUT OUR MISSION...I SUGGEST THAT WE ALLY OURSELVES WITH HIM WHO FREED US!
A WISE THOUGHT, TREE-DWELLER, BUT HE DOES NOT STRIKE ME AS THE TYPE TO JOIN SIDES WITH ANYONE!
PERHAPS, LEONUS --BUT WE CAN LOSE NOTHING BY TRYING!
WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR RELEASING US--AND ASK IF YOU WOULD CARE TO JOIN US!
JOIN YOU? WHAT FOR? HULK DOESN'T NEED ANYONE!
15

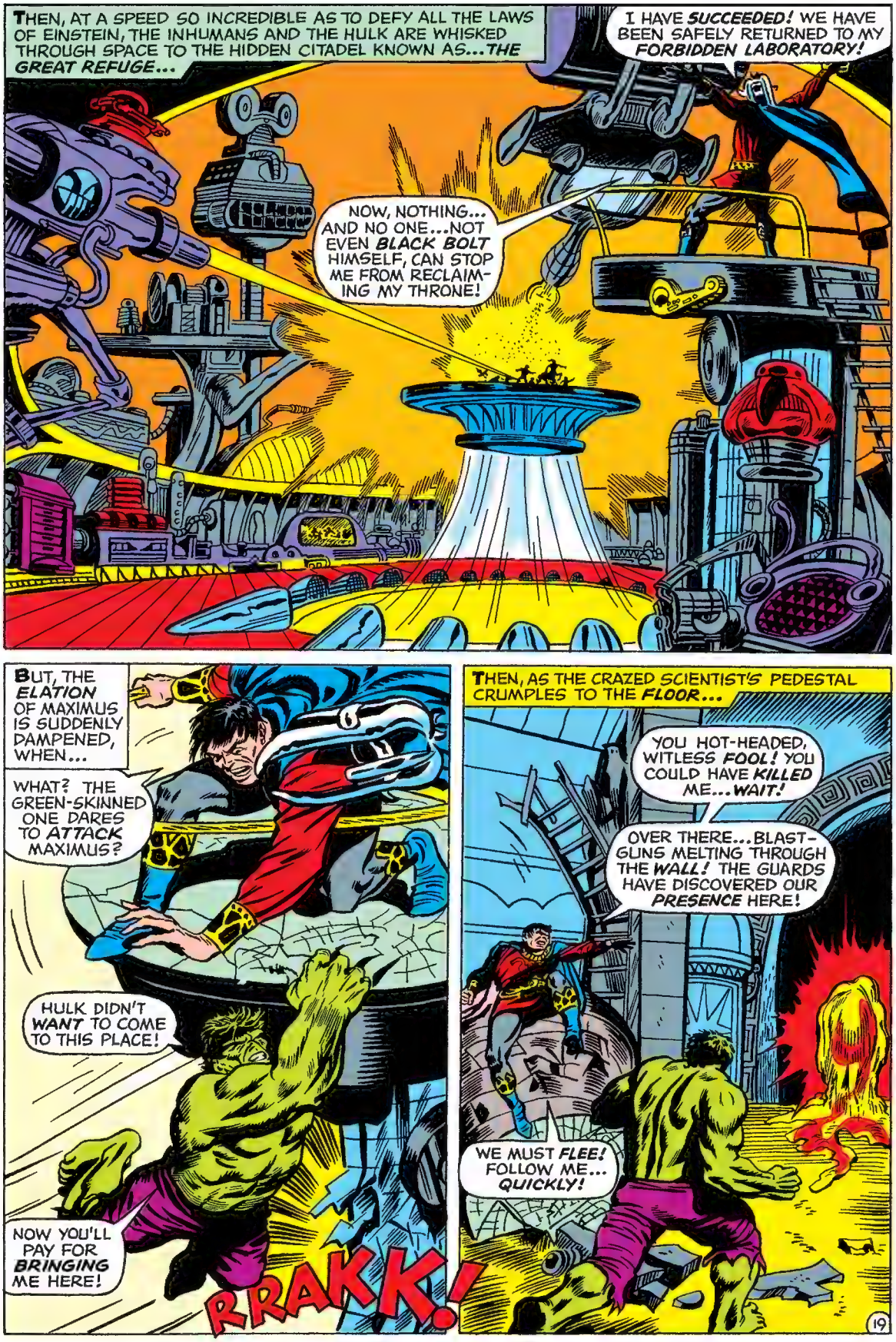

AHH, BUT YOU ARE WRONG!
THERE COMES A DAY WHEN EVERY MAN MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE HE CAN CALL FRIEND!
HORSEMAN LIES! HULK HAS NEVER HAD FRIEND!
THEN, WHAT BETTER TIME TO START BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS --THAN NOW?
AND, I WARN YOU--TO REFUSE OUR HOSPITALITY COULD BE MOST UNCOMFORTABLE FOR YOU!
THEN, WITH BUT THE SLIGHTEST GESTURE OF HIS FINGER, THE TREE-DWELLER CAUSES ALL NEARBY PLANTS TO SUDDENLY SPRING TO LIFE...
GRASS SHOOTING UP ALL AROUND ME... ATTACKING ME!
BUT NOTHING...NOT EVEN MAGIC TRICKS...CAN MAKE HULK DO WHAT HE DOESN'T WANT TO DO!
NOW HULK WILL SHOW TREE-MAN HOW TO STOP MAGIC...WITH STRENGTH!
16


BY THE GODS OF ALL THAT GROWS! HE'S UPROOTED THE VERY GROUND I WAS STANDING ON!..
...AS IF IT WERE BUT A MERE PEBBLE!
WHROOM!
THIS WILL SHOW THEM THAT NO ONE THREATENS HULK!

NOW MAYBE TREE-MAN WILL BELIEVE WHEN HULK SAYS HE DOESN'T WANT TO JOIN ANY-BODY!
SO GROGGY... EVERYTHING SPINNING...
...BUT, NOTHING SEEMS TO BE BROKEN!
AND AT LEAST I HAVE LEARNED THAT MY POWERS ...PERHAPS ALL OF OUR POWERS COMBINED...ARE NO MATCH FOR THOSE OF THE GREEN-SKINNED GIANT WHO HAS BEEN THRUST INTO OUR MIDST!

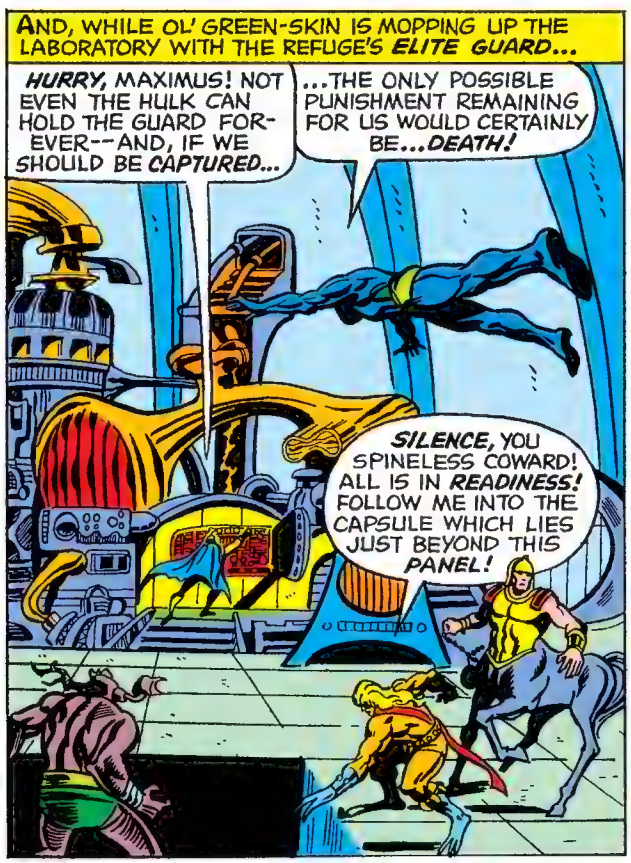
SUDDENLY...
HULK HAS MADE HIS POINT! NOW MAYBE STRANGE ONES WILL LEAVE ME ALONE--AND...
WHA--?
BRIGHT LIGHT... FILLING AIR... BLINDING HULK!
MAYBE ANOTHER OF THEM IS GOING TO ATTACK ME!

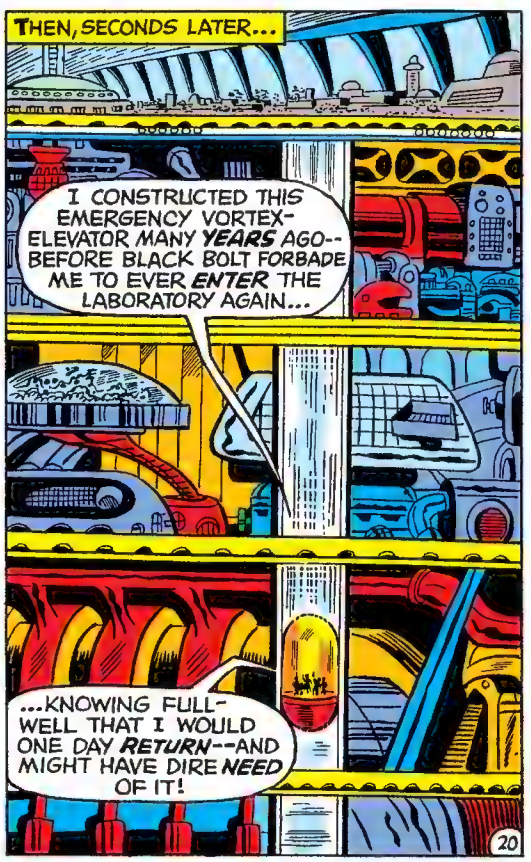
BUT, AS THE STARTLED GARGANTUA BRACES FOR ANOTHER ONSLAUGHT...
HOLD YOUR TEMPER, BRUTE! DO NOT LASH OUT SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND!
I COME AS FRIEND...NOT AS FOE--AND I WILL DELIVER YOU FROM THIS PLACE!
YOU NEED ONLY AGREE TO BECOME MY ALLIES--HELP ME REGAIN MY RIGHTFUL THRONE...TO GAIN EVERLASTING PEACE...AND FRIENDSHIP!
IT IS MAXIMUS... BUT HOW DID HE GET HERE?
THAT MATTERS NOT! HE OBVIOUSLY INTENDS TO RETURN US TO THE REFUGE!
PRECISELY, STALLIOR--FOR, WITH MY HELP, YOU MAY STILL ACHIEVE YOUR GOAL OF OVERTHROWING BLACK BOLT!
I HAVE PERFECTED AN INTER-DIMENSIONAL TELEPORTER--WITH POWERS THAT EQUAL THOSE OF LOCKJAW, HIMSELF! AND, WITH IT, I SHALL RETURN YOU ALL TO THE HOME FROM WHICH YOU WERE BANISHED!
THEN, WITH THE HELP OF HE WHO CALLS HIMSELF HULK...RULE OF THE GREAT REFUGE WILL BE OURS!
SO, BRACE YOURSELVES! WITHIN BUT A MICROSECOND ...WE WILL BE HOME!
NO! HULK WON'T GO WITH YOU! HULK DOESN'T TRUST YOU!
NO ONE FORCES HULK TO...
HE FADED AWAY...
...AND NOW, HULK IS FADING TOO!
18


THEN, AT A SPEED SO INCREDIBLE AS TO DEFY ALL THE LAWS OF EINSTEIN, THE INHUMANS AND THE HULK ARE WHISKED THROUGH SPACE TO THE HIDDEN CITADEL KNOWN AS...THE GREAT REFUGE...
I HAVE SUCCEEDED! WE HAVE BEEN SAFELY RETURNED TO MY FORBIDDEN LABORATORY!
NOW, NOTHING... AND NO ONE...NOT EVEN BLACK BOLT HIMSELF, CAN STOP ME FROM RECLAIMING MY THRONE!
BUT, THE ELATION OF MAXIMUS IS SUDDENLY DAMPENED, WHEN...
WHAT? THE GREEN-SKINNED ONE DARES TO ATTACK MAXIMUS?
HULK DIDN'T WANT TO COME TO THIS PLACE!
NOW YOU'LL PAY FOR BRINGING ME HERE!
RRAKK!
THEN, AS THE CRAZED SCIENTIST'S PEDESTAL CRUMPLES TO THE FLOOR...
YOU HOT-HEADED, WITLESS FOOL! YOU COULD HAVE KILLED ME...WAIT!
OVER THERE...BLAST-GUNS MELTING THROUGH THE WALL! THE GUARDS HAVE DISCOVERED OUR PRESENCE HERE!
WE MUST FLEE! FOLLOW ME... QUICKLY!
19

HOWEVER, AS MAXIMUS AND HIS FOLLOWERS RUSH TOWARD AN ESCAPE EXIT...
HULK WON'T RUN! HULK IS NOT AFRAID OF PUNY GUARDS... OR THEIR RAY GUNS! HULK WILL STOP THEM ...CRUSH THEM ALL!
IT ISN'T MAXIMUS AFTER ALL...BUT IT MAY BE EVEN WORSE! OUR DISINTEGRATORS DON'T HAVE ANY EFFECT ON THAT MONSTER!

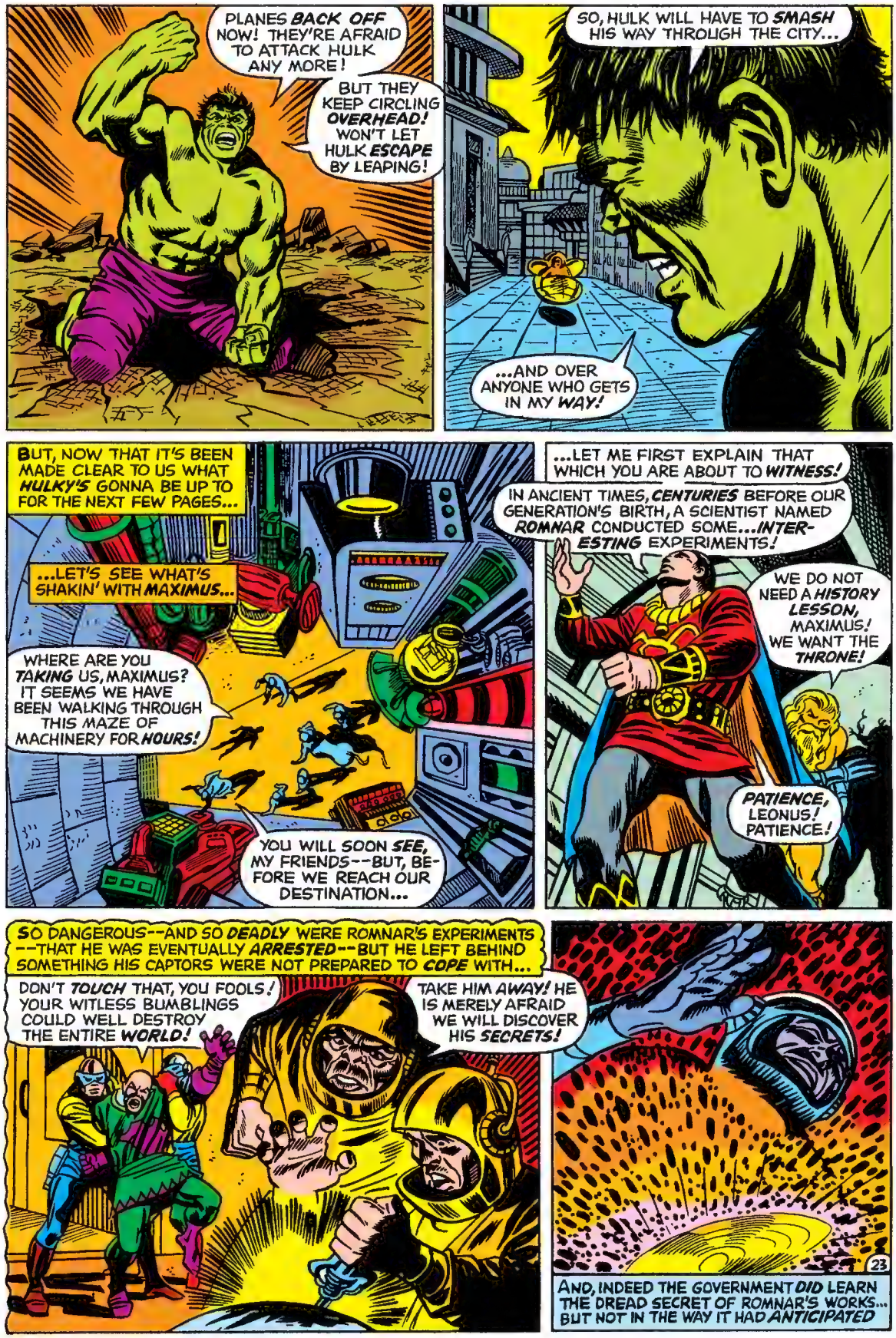
HAH! NOW YOU KNOW GUNS WON'T HURT HULK--BUT YOU FOUND OUT TOO LATE!--HULK DIDN'T ASK FOR TROUBLE--BUT, SINCE YOU GAVE IT TO ME, HULK WILL SHOW YOU WHAT TROUBLE MEANS!


AND, WHILE OL' GREEN-SKIN IS MOPPING UP THE LABORATORY WITH THE REFUGE'S ELITE GUARD...
HURRY, MAXIMUS! NOT EVEN THE HULK CAN HOLD THE GUARD FOR-EVER--AND, IF WE SHOULD BE CAPTURED...
...THE ONLY POSSIBLE PUNISHMENT REMAINING FOR US WOULD CERTAINLY BE...DEATH!
SILENCE, YOU SPINELESS COWARD! ALL IS IN READINESS! FOLLOW ME INTO THE CAPSULE WHICH LIES JUST BEYOND THIS PANEL!


THEN, SECONDS LATER...
I CONSTRUCTED THIS EMERGENCY VORTEX-ELEVATOR MANY YEARS AGO--BEFORE BLACK BOLT FORBADE ME TO EVER ENTER THE LABORATORY AGAIN...
...KNOWING FULL-WELL THAT I WOULD ONE DAY RETURN--AND MIGHT HAVE DIRE NEED OF IT!

BUT, SINCE WE KNOW HOW BORED YOU CAN GET LISTENING TO A MADMAN RANT AND RAVE--SUPPOSING WE SEE HOW THE INHUMANS' LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER IS HOLDING UP...
WE WILL DISPATCH PATROL ATTACK CRAFT TO THE AREA...WITH ORDERS TO SHOOT THE CREATURE ON SIGHT!
OUR SENTINELS DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE AGAINST THE MONSTER! WHAT WILL WE DO NOW? HE MUST BE STOPPED!
AS YOU WISH, SIR! ATTENTION PATROL ATTACK CRAFT DIVISION--DISPATCH ALL AIRBORNE CRAFT TO SECTOR-H IMMEDIATELY!
AN UNKNOWN ALIEN HAS BROKEN INTO THE FORBIDDEN LABORATORY OF MAXIMUS! HE MUST BE DESTROYED!
PATROL ATTACK NUMBER 743 TO HEADQUARTERS! TARGET SPOTTED! WILL AWAIT REINFORCEMENTS BEFORE ATTACKING!
NOW THAT GUARDS HAVE FLED...HULK CAN LEAP AWAY FROM THIS PLACE!
PEOPLE HERE ARE EVEN MORE MADDENING THAN NORMAL MEN WHO HUNT AND HOUND HULK!
BUT, HULK DOESN'T CARE--AS LONG AS HE CAN LEAVE THEM ALL BEHIND...
MAYBE EVEN LEAVE THE WHOLE WORLD BEHIND!
HOWEVER, AS THE HULK HURTLES HIGH ABOVE THE GLISTENING SPIRES OF THE GREAT REFUGE--SO LOST IN HIS THOUGHTS IS HE THAT HE IS OBLIVIOUS TO THE DEADLY AIRCRAFT BEARING DOWN BEHIND HIM...
UNTIL...
ZAK!
UNNNH!

A DEADLY ELECTRODE RAY STRIKES HIM--AND SENDS HIS GIGANTIC FIGURE HURTLING EARTHWARD TOWARD WHAT FOR ANY OTHER BEING WOULD BE CERTAIN DEATH...
WHUMP!
HOWEVER, THE SHOCK OF THE FALL MERELY SNAPS THE HULK BACK TO HIS SENSES, AND...
SOMETHING SHOT HULK--CAUSED ME TO FALL!
BUT, NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT WHO DID IT! HULK JUST WANTS TO LEAVE THIS PLACE!
BUT...
THE CREATURE SURVIVED SOMEHOW! WE MUST BLAST HIM AGAIN!
BRRZAT!
CRASH!
THEY ATTACK ME AGAIN!
THEY WON'T LET HULK LEAVE! ONLY WANT TO DESTROY ME!
AND IF THAT'S WHAT THEY WANT...HULK WILL LET THEM TRY!
BRAM!
BRASH!
THEY'LL NEED MORE THAN PUNY AIRPLANES TO DO IT!
ATTENTION HEADQUARTERS! WE CANNOT STOP HIM ALONE! MASSIVE RETALIATION IS THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE!
HE HAS SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED OUR MOST POWERFUL ELECTRODE RAYS--AND NOW HAS DEMOLISHED ONE OF OUR CRAFT! WE ARE HELPLESS AGAINST HIM!


PLANES BACK OFF NOW! THEY'RE AFRAID TO ATTACK HULK ANY MORE!
BUT THEY KEEP CIRCLING OVERHEAD! WON'T LET HULK ESCAPE BY LEAPING!
SO, HULK WILL HAVE TO SMASH HIS WAY THROUGH THE CITY...
...AND OVER ANYONE WHO GETS IN MY WAY!
BUT, NOW THAT IT'S BEEN MADE CLEAR TO US WHAT HULKY'S GONNA BE UP TO FOR THE NEXT FEW PAGES...
...LET'S SEE WHAT'S SHAKIN' WITH MAXIMUS...
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US, MAXIMUS? IT SEEMS WE HAVE BEEN WALKING THROUGH THIS MAZE OF MACHINERY FOR HOURS!
YOU WILL SOON SEE, MY FRIENDS--BUT, BEFORE WE REACH OUR DESTINATION...
...LET ME FIRST EXPLAIN THAT WHICH YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS!
IN ANCIENT TIMES, CENTURIES BEFORE OUR GENERATION'S BIRTH, A SCIENTIST NAMED ROMNAR CONDUCTED SOME...INTERESTING EXPERIMENTS!
WE DO NOT NEED A HISTORY LESSON, MAXIMUS! WE WANT THE THRONE!
PATIENCE, LEONUS! PATIENCE!
SO DANGEROUS--AND SO DEADLY WERE ROMNAR'S EXPERIMENTS --THAT HE WAS EVENTUALLY ARRESTED--BUT HE LEFT BEHIND SOMETHING HIS CAPTORS WERE NOT PREPARED TO COPE WITH...
DON'T TOUCH THAT, YOU FOOLS! YOUR WITLESS BUMBLINGS COULD WELL DESTROY THE ENTIRE WORLD!
TAKE HIM AWAY! HE IS MERELY AFRAID WE WILL DISCOVER HIS SECRETS!
AND, INDEED THE GOVERNMENT DID LEARN THE DREAD SECRET OF ROMNAR'S WORKS... BUT NOT IN THE WAY IT HAD ANTICIPATED
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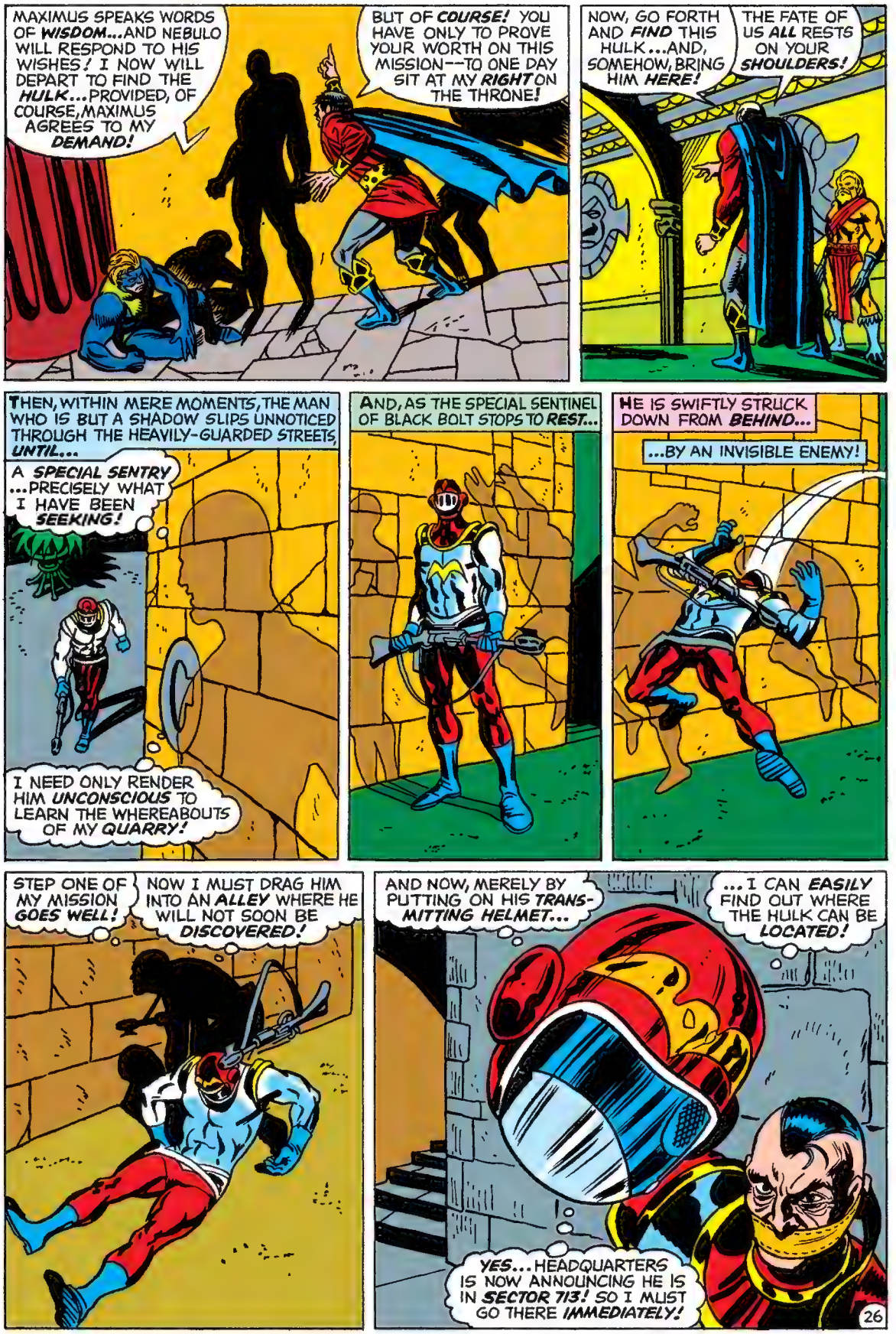
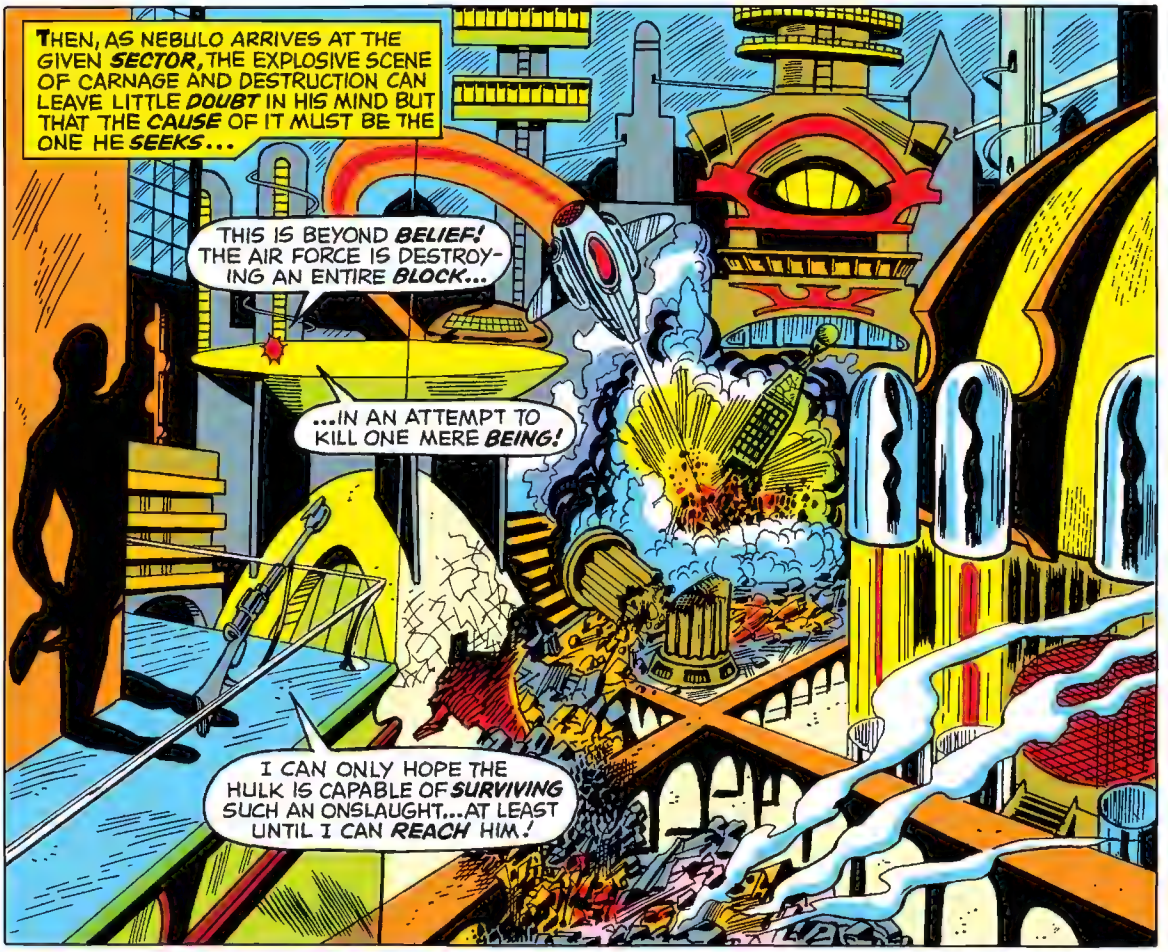
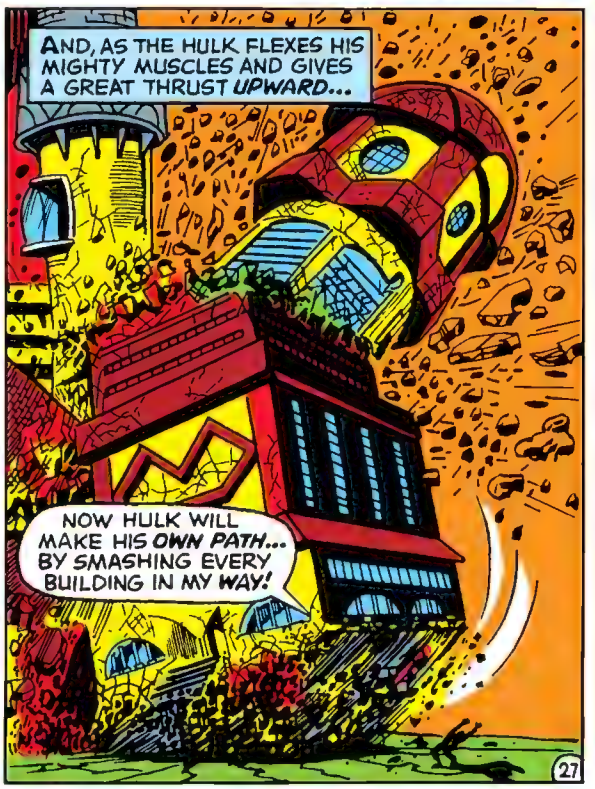
FIRST, THE STRANGE, GLOWING SUBSTANCE ROMNAR HAD CREATED ABSORBED ONE MAN...THEN ANOTHER...AND ANOTHER--ALL THE WHILE GAINING EVERY IOTA OF ENERGY WITHIN WHATEVER IT ABSORBED! AND AFTER BUT A FEW HOURS...
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! IT IS COMING!
IF WE STAY HERE...IT WILL DEVOUR US ALL!
HOWEVER, IN TIME, AND AFTER THOUSANDS OF LIVES HAD BEEN LOST, THE SUBSTANCE WAS SUBDUED...
IT IS BEATEN! WE HAVE FINALLY WON!
BUT IT IS NOT DEAD! WE HAVE SUCCEEDED ONLY IN CONTROLLING IT! NOW, A PLACE MUST BE FOUND TO IMPRISON IT...FOREVER!
AND, INDEED, SUCH A PLACE WAS BUILT...
WITHIN THESE VERY WALLS THE SECRET SUBSTANCE NOW LIES--WAITING TO ONCE MORE BE UNLEASHED!
AND MAXIMUS HAS IT WITHIN HIS POWER TO SET IT FREE...AND TO MAKE IT OBEDIENT!
IN OTHER WORDS, BEHIND THIS WALL LIES THE ULTIMATE WEAPON--WHICH WE SHALL EMPLOY TO BRING BLACK BOLT TO HIS KNEES...
AND TO BRING TO OURSELVES THE POWER AND THE GLORY WE RIGHTFULLY DESERVE!

BUT, IF THIS SUBSTANCE IS SO ALL-POWERFUL, WHY HAVE YOU WAITED UNTIL NOW TO OBTAIN IT?
AND, WITH YOUR GREAT SCIENTIFIC GENIUS, WHY DO YOU NEED US?
BECAUSE THIS WALL WHICH HOLDS THE SUBSTANCE CANNOT BE PENETRATED BY ANYTHING MECHANICAL!
FOR YEARS I HAVE BEEN TRYING--BUT ALWAYS I HAVE FAILED!
UNTIL, RECENTLY, I FINALLY DISCOVERED ITS SECRET...IT CAN ONLY BE PENETRATED BY SHEER, LIVING ENERGY!
IF THE SOURCE OF SUCH ENERGY IS POWERFUL ENOUGH...THE WALL WILL ABSORB IT...
...AND THAT IS WHERE YOU, AND THE GREEN-HUED ONE, FIT INTO MY PLANS!
THE FIRST STEP IS TO FIND THAT CREATURE...AND SOMEHOW CONVINCE HIM TO ASSIST US--AND THAT TASK CAN ONLY FALL TO NEBULO, THE SHADOW!
VERY WELL, MAXIMUS! I WILL LOCATE HIM FOR YOU--BUT ONLY ON YOUR PROMISE THAT I WILL ONE DAY BE YOUR SECOND IN COMMAND!
WHAT? WHY SHOULD YOU BE MADE... ;UUNNNHHH;
I ASSUME THIS IS SUFFICIENT ANSWER, COWARD!
HALT! I COMMAND YOU TO CEASE THESE USELESS HOSTILITIES AT ONCE! HOW CAN WE HOPE TO DEFEAT A COMMON ENEMY--WHEN WE ARE ENEMIES UNTO EACH OTHER?
TOGETHER, WE CAN RULE FIRST THE REFUGE...THEN THE WORLD...AND ONE DAY THE UNIVERSE...
BUT, DIVIDED, WE CAN RULE ONLY OURSELVES...IN EXILE!

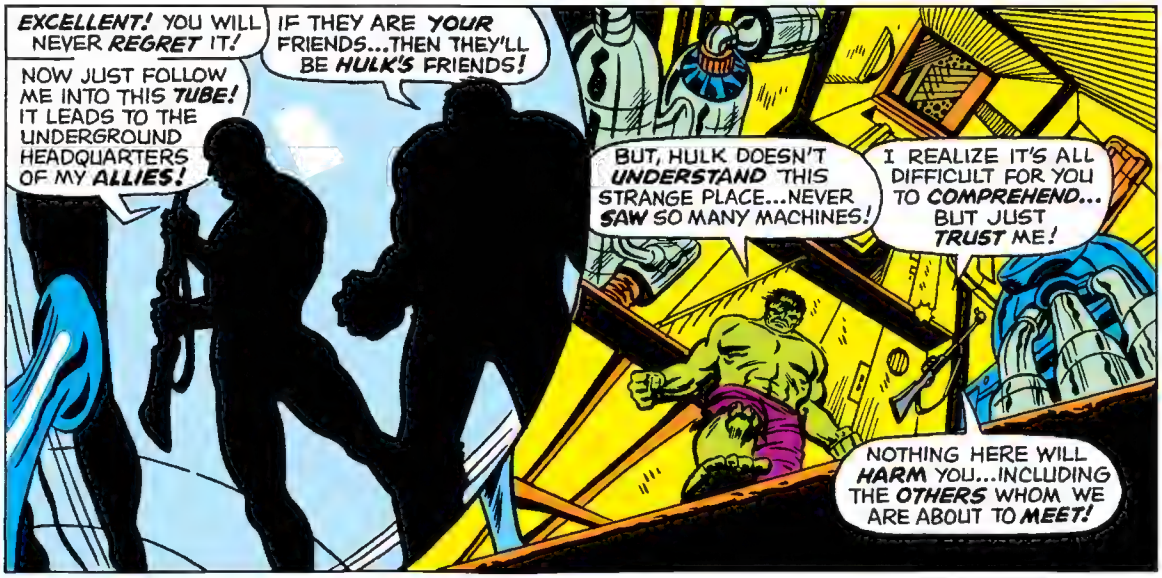

MAXIMUS SPEAKS WORDS OF WISDOM...AND NEBULO WILL RESPOND TO HIS WISHES! I NOW WILL DEPART TO FIND THE HULK...PROVIDED, OF COURSE, MAXIMUS AGREES TO MY DEMAND!
BUT OF COURSE! YOU HAVE ONLY TO PROVE YOUR WORTH ON THIS MISSION--TO ONE DAY SIT AT MY RIGHT ON THE THRONE!
NOW, GO FORTH AND FIND THIS HULK...AND, SOMEHOW, BRING HIM HERE!
THE FATE OF US ALL RESTS ON YOUR SHOULDERS!
THEN, WITHIN MERE MOMENTS, THE MAN WHO IS BUT A SHADOW SLIPS UNNOTICED THROUGH THE HEAVILY-GUARDED STREETS, UNTIL...
A SPECIAL SENTRY ...PRECISELY WHAT I HAVE BEEN SEEKING!
I NEED ONLY RENDER HIM UNCONSCIOUS TO LEARN THE WHEREABOUTS OF MY QUARRY!
AND, AS THE SPECIAL SENTINEL OF BLACK BOLT STOPS TO REST...
HE IS SWIFTLY STRUCK DOWN FROM BEHIND...
...BY AN INVISIBLE ENEMY!
STEP ONE OF MY MISSION GOES WELL!
NOW I MUST DRAG HIM INTO AN ALLEY WHERE HE WILL NOT SOON BE DISCOVERED!
AND NOW, MERELY BY PUTTING ON HIS TRANSMITTING HELMET...
...I CAN EASILY FIND OUT WHERE THE HULK CAN BE LOCATED!
YES...HEADQUARTERS IS NOW ANNOUNCING HE IS IN SECTOR 713! SO I MUST GO THERE IMMEDIATELY!

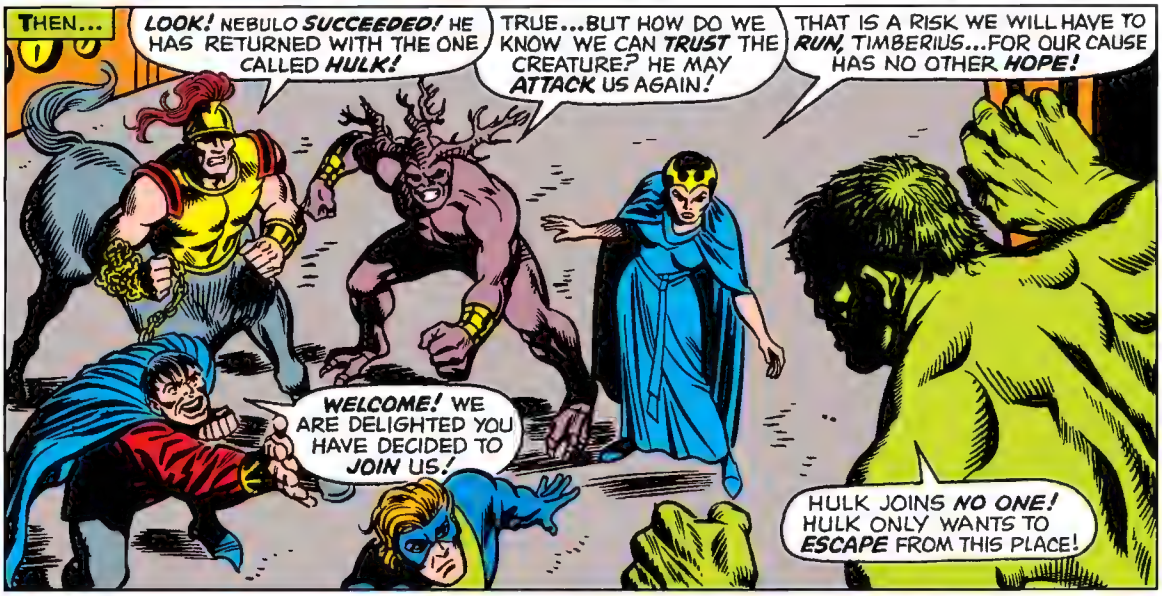

THEN, AS NEBULO ARRIVES AT THE GIVEN SECTOR, THE EXPLOSIVE SCENE OF CARNAGE AND DESTRUCTION CAN LEAVE LITTLE DOUBT IN HIS MIND BUT THAT THE CAUSE OF IT MUST BE THE ONE HE SEEKS...
THIS IS BEYOND BELIEF! THE AIR FORCE IS DESTROYING AN ENTIRE BLOCK...
...IN AN ATTEMPT TO KILL ONE MERE BEING!
I CAN ONLY HOPE THE HULK IS CAPABLE OF SURVIVING SUCH AN ONSLAUGHT...AT LEAST UNTIL I CAN REACH HIM!

BUT, THE SHADOW-MAN WOULD BE FAR LESS CONCERNED IF HE COULD BUT SEE THE GREAT GREEN GOLIATH IN ACTION AT THAT VERY MOMENT...
PLANES KEEP ATTACKING HULK... BLOCKING MY PATH OUT OF THIS PLACE!
BUT IT WON'T DO THEM ANY GOOD-- BECAUSE HULK WILL SMASH THE WHOLE WORLD IF HE HAS TO!


AND, AS THE HULK FLEXES HIS MIGHTY MUSCLES AND GIVES A GREAT THRUST UPWARD...
NOW HULK WILL MAKE HIS OWN PATH... BY SMASHING EVERY BUILDING IN MY WAY!

HOWEVER, AS THE HULK BATTERS HIS WAY THROUGH THE PANIC-STRICKEN CITY...
THERE HE IS! JUST BELOW ME...AND HE SEEMS TO BE TRYING TO ESCAPE!
I MUST REACH HIM BEFORE HE CAN DO THAT... WHILE HE IS STILL IN DANGER FROM THE ATTACK!
NO MATTER WHICH WAY I GO ...ALWAYS MORE BUILDINGS... BUT THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OUT OF HERE!
AND, IF HULK HAS TO CRUMBLE THE WHOLE CITY... HE'LL FIND IT!
WAIT! HEAR ME OUT! I HAVE COME TO HELP YOU!
WHAT?? YOU TRY TO TRICK ME!
IT IS NEBULO... ONE OF THOSE WHOM YOU FREED ...AND WHO THEN BROUGHT YOU HERE!
HULK HEARS YOUR VOICE... BUT CAN'T SEE YOU!
BESIDES, HULK DOESN'T NEED HELP! HULK CAN HELP HIMSELF!
THEN, I'LL PROVE I AM YOUR FRIEND...BY DESTROYING THAT PASSING ATTACK CRAFT!
THAT SHOULD PROVE TO YOU THAT I AM YOUR FRIEND...AND THAT I WILL HELP YOU ESCAPE... IF YOU WILL FOLLOW ME!
YOU'RE RIGHT! NO ONE EVER HELPED HULK BEFORE! MAYBE YOU ARE HULK'S FRIEND! HULK WILL GO WITH YOU!


EXCELLENT! YOU WILL NEVER REGRET IT!
IF THEY ARE YOUR FRIENDS...THEN THEY'LL BE HULK'S FRIENDS!
NOW JUST FOLLOW ME INTO THIS TUBE! IT LEADS TO THE UNDERGROUND HEADQUARTERS OF MY ALLIES!
BUT, HULK DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THIS STRANGE PLACE...NEVER SAW SO MANY MACHINES!
I REALIZE IT'S ALL DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO COMPREHEND... BUT JUST TRUST ME!
NOTHING HERE WILL HARM YOU...INCLUDING THE OTHERS WHOM WE ARE ABOUT TO MEET!


THEN...
LOOK! NEBULO SUCCEEDED! HE HAS RETURNED WITH THE ONE CALLED HULK!
TRUE...BUT HOW DO WE KNOW WE CAN TRUST THE CREATURE? HE MAY ATTACK US AGAIN!
THAT IS A RISK WE WILL HAVE TO RUN, TIMBERIUS...FOR OUR CAUSE HAS NO OTHER HOPE!
WELCOME! WE ARE DELIGHTED YOU HAVE DECIDED TO JOIN US!
HULK JOINS NO ONE! HULK ONLY WANTS TO ESCAPE FROM THIS PLACE!

AHH, BUT OF COURSE YOU DO...AND WE WILL HELP YOU...FOR WE UNDERSTAND YOUR PLIGHT!
FOR WE, LIKE YOURSELF, ARE ALL OUTCASTS... HATED AND HOUNDED BY ALL OTHER MEN!
WE ONLY WANT TO OFFER YOU OUR FRIENDSHIP... AND HOPE THAT YOU WILL GIVE US YOURS!

NO ONE EVER ASKED HULK TO BE HIS FRIEND BEFORE! NO ONE EVER UNDERSTOOD... BUT HULK CAN TELL YOU DO UNDERSTAND!
AND HULK WILL BE YOUR FRIEND!

THEN, IN THAT CASE, YOU WILL DO US A FAVOR...
...BY SMASHING YOUR WAY THROUGH THE WALL YOU NOW STAND BESIDE!
YOU HULK'S FRIEND! HULK WILL DO WHAT YOU SAY!
GOOD! GOOD! AND, WHEN YOU GET INSIDE, YOU WILL RETRIEVE A LARGE, EGG-SHAPED CONTAINER...WHICH GLOWS LIKE A THOUSAND STARS!
IF THAT'S WHAT HULK'S FRIEND WANTS...HULK WILL GET IT FOR HIM!
BUT, AS THE HULK SMASHES INTO THE WALL, IT BEGINS TO VIBRATE VIOLENTLY...
...AND, INSTEAD OF CRUMBLING, IT BEGINS TO ABSORB THE LIVING POWERHOUSE WHICH STRUCK IT!
WHAT SORT OF TREACHERY IS THIS? THE WALL IS DEVOURING HIM!
YES! MAXIMUS' PLAN HAS FAILED! HE USED THE GREEN-SKINNED ONE AS A LIVING SACRIFICE!
AND IT MIGHT JUST AS WELL HAVE BEEN ONE OF US!
YOU BLITHERING FOOLS! DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IS HAPPENING? MY PLAN IS WORKING PERFECTLY!
HOWEVER, RATHER THAN LETTING CRAZY MAX TELL US ABOUT IT...WHAT SAY WE ZOOM IN FOR A HULK'S-EYE VIEW...
STRONG FORCE PULLING HULK...
...BUT HULK WILL FIGHT IT!
PRESSURE...TRYING TO KEEP HULK INSIDE WALL!
BUT HULK WILL BREAK THROUGH!
CAN'T...LET FRIENDS... DOWN!
THEN...
UNNNNH!
HULK WINS!
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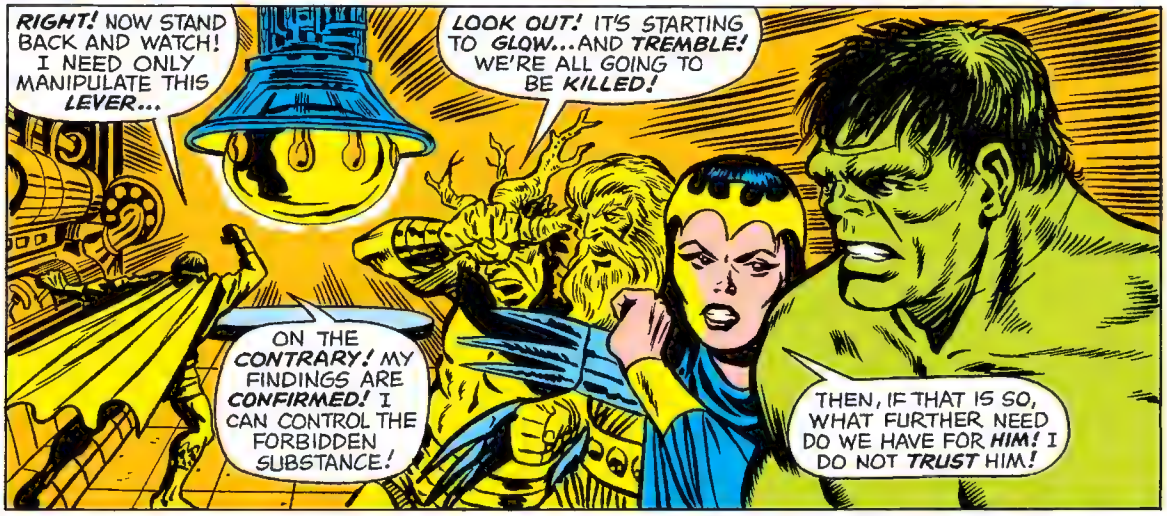
AND, IN ANOTHER INSTANT, THE HULK LIES INSIDE A GIGANTIC CHAMBER...EXHAUSTED...BUT TRIUMPHANT!
SO TIRED...MUSCLES ACHING...BUT HULK STILL...ISN'T FINISHED!
MUST GET...GLOWING CONTAINER...FOR MY FRIENDS!
AND...THERE IT IS...JUST AHEAD!
NOT EVEN THROBBING PAIN IN MY MUSCLES...
...WILL STOP HULK FROM REACHING IT...
...AND TAKING IT BACK THROUGH WALL...TO THEM!
BUT...HULK CAN'T TOUCH IT!
GLOWING RAYS STING ME...WHEN I REACH FOR IT!
CAN'T LET PAIN STOP ME, THOUGH!
FEELS LIKE A THOUSAND KNIVES TEARING AT ME...
BUT...
I'VE GOT IT!
NOW THAT HULK HAS FRIENDS FOR THE FIRST TIME...NOTHING COULD MAKE ME LOSE THEM!
MAGNIFICENT! HE HAS THE CONTAINER ...AND REMOVAL OF IT FROM ITS RESTING PLACE CAUSED THE FORCE-WALL TO EVAPORATE...JUST AS I KNEW IT WOULD!
IN BUT A FEW MORE MOMENTS, BLACK BOLT HIMSELF WILL TREMBLE AT MY FEET!
QUICKLY! BRING THE CONTAINER TO MY LABORATORY!

THEN, AFTER THE HULK HAS CAREFULLY PLACED THE CUMBERSOME CONTAINER ACCORDING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS OF MAXIMUS...
THERE! NOW ALL IS IN READINESS FOR THE MAJOR TEST!
IF IT IS SUCCESSFUL... WE WILL BE READY TO DEMAND FULL CONTROL OF THE GREAT REFUGE!
YOU ARE SAFE! YOU'RE MY FRIENDS! HULK WILL PROTECT YOU!
THOUGH I FEAR NOTHING MYSELF, I WONDER...WOULD IT NOT BE BEST TO SEND THE OTHERS TO A PLACE OF SAFETY?


RIGHT! NOW STAND BACK AND WATCH! I NEED ONLY MANIPULATE THIS LEVER...
LOOK OUT! IT'S STARTING TO GLOW...AND TREMBLE! WE'RE ALL GOING TO BE KILLED!
ON THE CONTRARY! MY FINDINGS ARE CONFIRMED! I CAN CONTROL THE FORBIDDEN SUBSTANCE!
THEN, IF THAT IS SO, WHAT FURTHER NEED DO WE HAVE FOR HIM! I DO NOT TRUST HIM!

HOWEVER, WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL LATER FOR MAXIMUS' ANSWER! FOR, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, IN THE VERY HEART OF THE REFUGE...
LEGIONS...IN THE ABSENCE OF BLACK BOLT ...GORGON DEMANDS THAT YOU TELL WHERE THE HULK HAS GONE!
ALAS, GORGON... I AM BUT OUR RULER'S ORACLE! I HAVE NO ANSWER FOR YOU!

BUT...
HEAR ME, CITIZENS OF THE GREAT REFUGE! I, MAXIMUS, WISH TO ANNOUNCE THAT, ON THIS DAY, YOU ONCE MORE SHALL PROCLAIM ME...KING!
FOR I HAVE OBTAINED THE FORBIDDEN SUBSTANCE OF RAMNOR...AND, UNLESS THE THRONE IS SURRENDERED TO ME IMMEDIATELY, I SHALL UNLEASH IT UPON YOU ALL!
RAMNOR...THE ANCIENT CHEMIST WHO NEARLY DESTROYED THE REFUGE! IF MAXIMUS SPEAKS THE TRUTH...WE MAY BE DOOMED!

AND, A SPLIT-SECOND LATER, JUST OUTSIDE THE OFFICE IN WHICH GORGON AND THE ORACLE STAND...
LOOK! HOVERING OVER THE CITY...A BLINDING CIRCLE OF LIGHT!
IT IS A HALO OF DEATH! MAXIMUS TRULY INTENDS TO KILL US ALL!
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! THE END IS NEAR!
WHILE...
MAXIMUS APPEARS TO BE BROADCASTING FROM THE ARENA OF JUSTICE!
I MUST GO THERE... AND TRY TO STOP HIM!
THOUGH YOU HAVE LITTLE CHANCE...PERHAPS YOU CAN AT LEAST DELAY HIM...
...WHILE I ATTEMPT TO SUMMON BLACK BOLT!
THEN, AS GORGON DESPERATELY FIGHTS HIS WAY THROUGH THE PANICKING THRONGS IN THE STREETS...
HEAR ME, CITIZENS! YOU NEED NOT FLEE IN TERROR! YOU CAN STILL BE SPARED!
YOU NEED ONLY TURN TO ME...AND RECOGNIZE ME AS YOUR KING!
PLACE ME ON THE THRONE WHICH WAS UNRIGHTFULLY USURPED FROM ME BY BLACK BOLT... AND I WILL SPARE YOUR LIVES!
HE HAS BECOME CRAZED WITH POWER... AND FORGOTTEN THAT WE EXIST!
IF NECESSARY, HE WILL DESTROY US ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE!
YOUR WORDS HAVE THE RING OF WISDOM, LEONUS, BUT WHAT CAN WE DO?
BUT, BEFORE THE LION-MAN CAN ANSWER...
HOLD YOUR TONGUE, MAXIMUS! GORGON WOULD HAVE WORDS WITH YOU...IN THE NAME OF OUR TRUE LEADER!
SURELY YOU DO NOT THINK YOUR MAD SCHEME CAN RETURN YOUR THRONE TO YOU!
AT THIS VERY MOMENT, BLACK BOLT IS ON HIS WAY TO STOP YOU!
SPEAK NOT TO ME OF MY THRONE-THIEVING BROTHER!
I HAVE HARNESSED ALL THE POWER OF ROMNAR'S SUBSTANCE IN THIS TINY WRIST RAY... AND IT IS FAR MORE THAN ENOUGH POWER TO SMITE DOWN THE LIKES OF YOU...OR BLACK BOLT!
NO! YOU'RE CRAZED WITH POWER, MAXIMUS! YOU'LL SLAY EVERYONE!
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DON'T TOUCH ME, YOU COWARDLY CLOWN! YOU MIGHT...
YOUR WEAPON MUST BE DESTROYED... BEFORE YOU CAN TURN IT ON US!
YOU TRIGGERED IT! AND ITS RAYS ARE STRIKING THE HULK!
;UUNNHH!;
HAVE NO FEAR, MAXIMUS! I'LL GRAB IT BEFORE HE CAN SMASH IT!
WELL DONE, TIMBERIUS! YOUR LOYALTY WILL BE REPAID... JUST AS I NOW REPAY ANOTHER'S TREASON!
HULK... FEELS WEAK! GUN... STOLE ALL HULK'S... STRENGTH! HULK... NOT UNDERSTAND... WHAT'S GOING ON!
THE SHOT FROM MAXIMUS' RAY SEEMS TO HAVE STAGGERED THE GIANT! PERHAPS ANOTHER BLAST WILL FINISH HIM!
THEN HURRY AND BLAST HIM! WE HAVE ONE SOURCE OF NEARLY UNCONTROLLABLE POWER IN MAXIMUS! WE DO NOT NEED ANOTHER!
WHAT IS THIS? HAVE YOU ALL TURNED AGAINST ME?
AND WHY SHOULD WE NOT? FOR, NOW THAT WE HAVE THE ULTIMATE WEAPON... WE NO LONGER NEED YOU... OR THE HULK!
HAH! THE SECOND BLAST COMPLETELY FELLED HIM!
NOW WHAT SHALL WE DO TO FINISH HIM FOR GOOD?
SINCE THE WRIST RAY CAN DO NEARLY ANYTHING, WHY NOT USE IT TO HURL HIM OFF THE BALCONY... AND TO HIS DEATH AMIDST THE CROWD BELOW?
THEY THINK HULK CAN'T HEAR THEM... BUT THEY'LL SEE HOW WRONG THEY ARE... WHEN THE TIME'S RIGHT!
THEN, IN THE NEXT INSTANT, A SHORT BURST OF POWER FROM THE RAY SENDS THE HULK HURTLING FROM THE BALCONY DIRECTLY AT THE TERRIFIED CROWD BELOW...
THEY THINK FALL WILL KILL HULK!
AND HULK WILL LET THEM THINK IT DOES... FOR A WHILE!

THEN...
KA-THOOM!
THAT IS THE END OF ONE OF OUR FOES...NOW, WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE OTHER?
YOU TREACHEROUS MORONS! CAN YOU NOT SEE THAT, WITHOUT ME, YOU WILL ONLY DESTROY YOURSELVES?
ONLY I HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE TO CONTROL ROMNAR'S SUBSTANCE! IN THE HANDS OF ANYONE ELSE...IT COULD WELL DESTROY THIS ENTIRE PLANET!
YOU'RE NOT SPEAKING TO THE IGNORANT MASSES, MAXIMUS! YOU WON'T TRICK US INTO SPARING... WHA...?
THAT LIGHT! THE GUN WAS FORCED FROM MY GRASP...
THE BLINDING GLOW EMANATES FROM A TOWERING FIGURE ALMOST TREMBLING IN RAGE...
BLACK BOLT!

AND, WHILE THE CROWD STARES IN SHELL-SHOCKED AWE AT THE CONFRONTATION ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE ON THE BALCONY ABOVE...
NOW HULK KNOWS THEY WEREN'T MY FRIENDS!
THEY'RE LIKE ALL OTHER PEOPLE! THEY FEAR HULK ...HATE HULK! ONLY WANTED TO USE HULK!
BUT, SOON, HULK WILL GET HIS REVENGE!
BLACK BOLT COMMANDS THAT ALL THOSE WHO WERE BANISHED AND RETURNED BE ARRESTED!
YOU HAVE HEARD BLACK BOLT! SEIZE THEM AT ONCE!
WE ARE SAVED! MAXIMUS FEARS TO ACT AGAINST BLACK BOLT!
AND NOW OUR RULER, FOR THE FIRST TIME, LASHES OUT AT HIM HE MUST CLAIM AS BROTHER!
FOR, THIS ACT OF TREASON HAS SURELY BEEN THE GRAVEST OF THEM ALL!
THEN, MAXIMUS HAVING BEEN BRUSHED ASIDE, BLACK BOLT GESTURES DRAMATICALLY TO THE EVER-LOYAL GORGON...
HIS HIGHNESS WISHES THAT THE TRAITORS BE TAKEN TO PRISON TO AWAIT RE-SENTENCING!
IT SHALL BE DONE!
BUT, AS THE GUARDS BEGIN TO MARCH THE EVIL INHUMANS OFF--AND BLACK BOLT SOARS AWAY WITH MAXIMUS...
THEY TRY TO LEAVE WITH THOSE WHO LIED TO HULK! BUT HULK WON'T LET THEM!
THEY TRICKED HULK... MADE ME THINK THEY WERE FRIENDS...AND THEN BETRAYED ME! BUT THEY WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT! NOW...

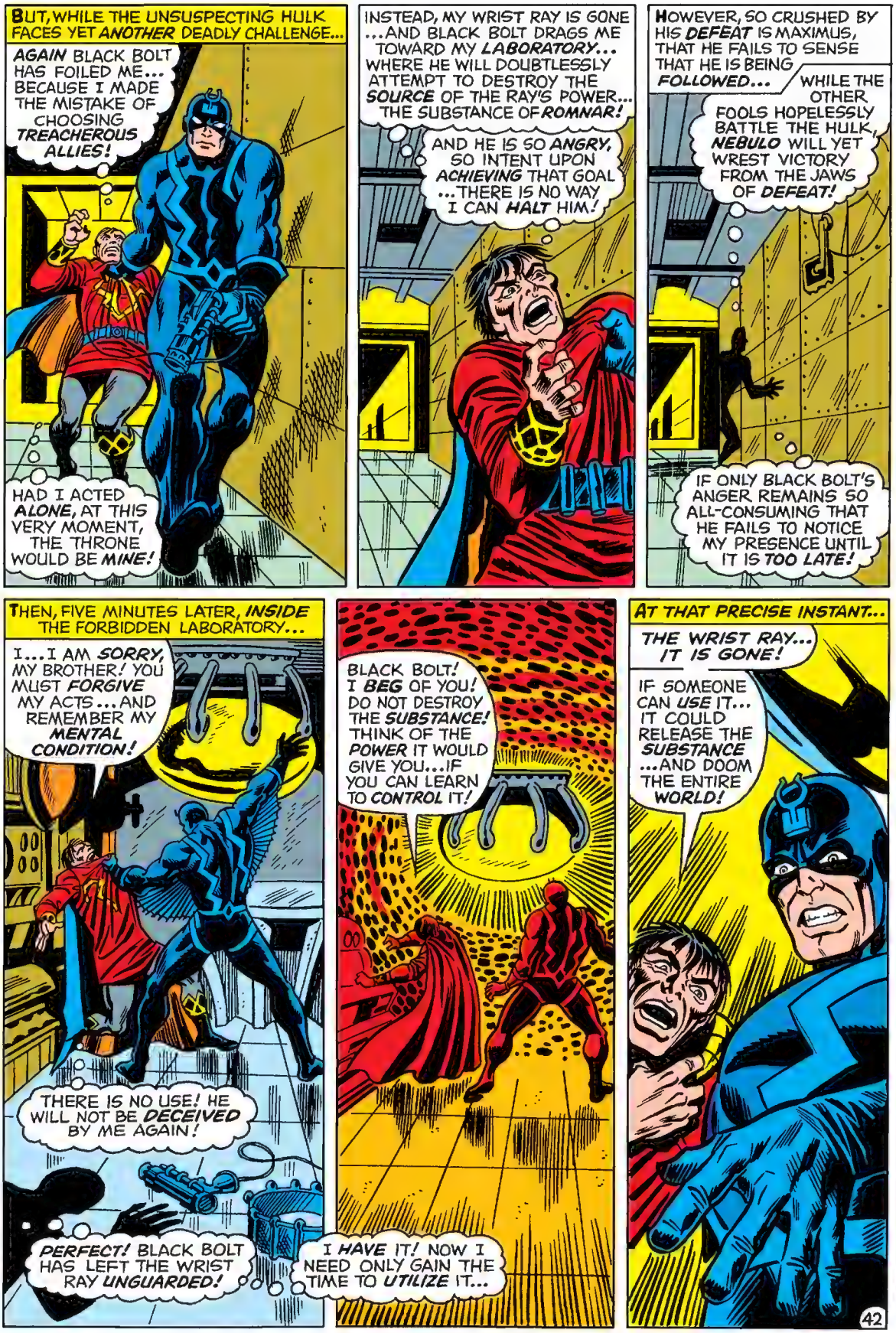
HULK ATTACKS!
THE GIANT LIVES.. AND LEAPS FORWARD TO SLAY US!
YOU MADE FOOL OF HULK...AND NOW YOU'LL PAY FOR IT!
WHAT CAN WE DO? THE GUARDS WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO STOP HIM!
THE CREATURE IS STILL ALIVE... BUT, GOOD! LET HIM HAVE HIS MOMENT...AND PERHAPS THEY WILL DESTROY EACH OTHER!
SINCE WE WILL BE SENTENCED TO DEATH, NO MATTER...LET US DIE LIKE WARRIORS BORN!
AND LET ALL KNOW THAT EVERY BLOW STRUCK BY STALLIOR...IS A BLOW FOR OUR RIGHTFUL KING... BLACK BOLT!
HULK KILL!!
NOTHING CAN STOP HULK FROM GETTING REVENGE!

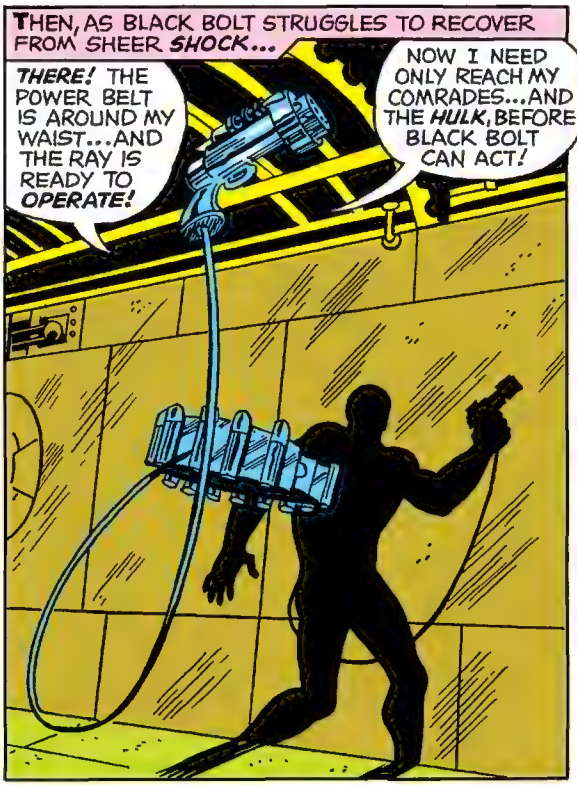
BUT, AS THE RAGING BEHEMOTH LOOKS FOR MORE OF THOSE WHO BETRAYED HIM...
VENGEANCE SHALL NOT BE YOURS...AT SO GREAT A COST AS THE DESTRUCTION OF OUR REFUGE!
SWAAACK!
HORSE-MAN DARES TO CHALLENGE HULK! THAT WILL BE HIS LAST CHALLENGE!
NOT SO, BRUTISH ONE! THOUGH STALLIOR HAS BEEN WRONG IN HIS DEEDS...I STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO ACCOMPLISH ONE FINAL ACT OF BRAVERY IN THE NAME OF MY PEOPLE!
I SHOULD NEVER HAVE JOINED MY ACCOMPLICES IN THE FIRST PLACE...AND I SHOULD NEVER HAVE FOUGHT BESIDE THEM AGAIN...
...BUT IF, BY DEFEATING YOU, I CAN DO SOME SERVICE FOR THOSE TO WHOM MY TRUE LOYALTY LIES...
...THEN I WILL DIE ATTEMPTING TO DO IT!
UUUNNHH! CHAIN WRAPPED TIGHT AROUND HULK'S BODY... AND HORSE-MAN PULLING ON IT!
CAUGHT HULK OFF-BALANCE! NOW HULK CAN'T BREAK FREE!
AND NOW, IN THE NAME OF BLACK BOLT, WILL I DRAG YOU THROUGH THE STREETS UNTIL YOUR DEATH...
...OR AT LEAST UNTIL YOU NO LONGER ARE A THREAT TO OUR CITY!
STALLIOR TURNS AGAINST US ONCE MORE...BUT HE HAS THE HULK AT HIS MERCY!
YES...BUT PERHAPS WE CAN TURN HIS TRIUMPH TO OUR ADVANTAGE ALSO! LET US ALL ATTACK THE GREEN ONE NOW... IN HOPE OF WINNING PARDON!
FIGHT THE BEASTS AGAIN IF YOU WILL! BUT IT IS CERTAIN TO BRING DEATH TO YOU--MUCH SOONER THAN THAT WHICH IS ALREADY INEVITABLE!

QUICKLY! THE CENTAUR HAS THE UPPER HAND... AND WE MUST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT!
RIGHT! IF WE ATTACK NOW... PERHAPS WE CAN SOMEHOW DEFEAT THE HULK!
HURRY, COMRADES! IT WILL TAKE ALL OF OUR COMBINED STRENGTH TO BRING THE VICTORY!
UUNNHHH!
THEN LET LEONUS STRIKE FIRST!
SMASH
IF THE HULK FALLS TO US ...THE PEOPLE MIGHT YET TURN ON BLACK BOLT...
...AND HAND THE THRONE TO US AS THEIR GREATEST HEROES!
THE ENEMY IS DOWN! NOW WE MUST KEEP THE PRESSURE ON HIM...AND PUMMEL HIM INTO TOTAL SUBMISSION!
WE MUST STAY EVER ON THE OFFENSIVE... UNTIL THE BATTLE IS WON!
BUT...
YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT NO ONE CAN BEAT HULK!
NO ONE!
RAAKKK!
NOW IT'S THE HULK'S TURN TO FIGHT!
HE'S BROKEN FREE! THERE'LL BE NO STOPPING HIM NOW!

FOR ALL MY JUNGLE-SPAWNED POWER, HE TOSSES ME ABOUT LIKE A MERE MANNEQUIN!
YEEAAAA!
NO! WE CANNOT GIVE UP SO EASILY! WE MUST BATTLE ON...TO THE VERY END!
THEY AREN'T DAMAGING ANY PROPERTY...SO BLACK BOLT HAS ORDERED THAT WE LET THEM DESTROY EACH OTHER!
ONCE HULK WOULD HAVE LET YOU LIVE...
...BUT YOU BETRAYED HULK!
AND NOW, HULK WILL SMASH YOU ALL!
WHRAAM!
TREE-MAN WILL MAKE GOOD WEAPON TO FINISH HORSE-MAN!
NO HOPE REMAINS FOR US! EVEN IF WE SURVIVE THE HULK'S ONSLAUGHT... BLACK BOLT WILL SURELY HAVE US EXECUTED UNLESS...
...MY BIRDS OF PREY CAN YET PRESERVE VICTORY FOR OUR CAUSE!
THEY ARE OUR ONLY CHANCE TO ESCAPE! TO ME, MY PETS! FALCONA SUMMONS YOU!
40

WHILE, HUNDREDS OF FEET ABOVE...
THE TRAITORS ARE DEFEATED! BLACK BOLT NOW ORDERS US TO ARREST LEOTUS!
I MANAGED TO LIVE...ONLY BECAUSE MY CLAWS WERE STRONG ENOUGH TO ENABLE ME TO CLING TO THIS BUILDING WHEN I SMASHED INTO IT AND BEGAN TO FALL!
IT IS OF LITTLE CONSEQUENCE, THOUGH --FOR ALREADY THE GUARDS COME TO ARREST ME AGAIN!
THAT CAN ONLY MEAN OUR CAUSE IS LOST, AND DEATH IS AS CERAIN AS...WAIT!
THE SKY SUDDENLY GROWS DARK...AND THE AIR IS FILLED WITH A FEARSOME SHRIEKING...AND THE FLUTTER OF A MILLION WINGS! IT CAN ONLY MEAN... FALCONA LAUNCHES ONE FINAL ATTACK IN OUR BEHALF!
AND, AT THAT SAME MOMENT, IN THE ARENA BELOW...
NOW ADMIT HULK HAS BEATEN YOU... AND BEG FOR MERCY!
MAYBE HULK WILL DECIDE TO LET YOU LIVE!
LOOK...IN THE SKY! IT'S FILLED WITH A MILLION HUNTING FALCONS!
FALCONA HAS SUMMONED ALL THE CREATURES SHE COMMANDS TO THE BATTLE FOR US!
THE GREAT GREEN ONE WHO STANDS ALONE IN THE ARENA, MY PRETTIES!
ATTACK HIM... AND SLAY HIM! SO COMMANDS...FALCONA!
41


BUT, WHILE THE UNSUSPECTING HULK FACES YET ANOTHER DEADLY CHALLENGE...
AGAIN BLACK BOLT HAS FOILED ME... BECAUSE I MADE THE MISTAKE OF CHOOSING TREACHEROUS ALLIES!
HAD I ACTED ALONE, AT THIS VERY MOMENT, THE THRONE WOULD BE MINE!
INSTEAD, MY WRIST RAY IS GONE ...AND BLACK BOLT DRAGS ME TOWARD MY LABORATORY... WHERE HE WILL DOUBTLESSLY ATTEMPT TO DESTROY THE SOURCE OF THE RAY'S POWER... THE SUBSTANCE OF ROMNAR!
AND HE IS SO ANGRY, SO INTENT UPON ACHIEVING THAT GOAL ...THERE IS NO WAY I CAN HALT HIM!
HOWEVER, SO CRUSHED BY HIS DEFEAT IS MAXIMUS, THAT HE FAILS TO SENSE THAT HE IS BEING FOLLOWED...
WHILE THE OTHER FOOLS HOPELESSLY BATTLE THE HULK, NEBULO WILL YET WREST VICTORY FROM THE JAWS OF DEFEAT!
IF ONLY BLACK BOLT'S ANGER REMAINS SO ALL-CONSUMING THAT HE FAILS TO NOTICE MY PRESENCE UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE!
THEN, FIVE MINUTES LATER, INSIDE THE FORBIDDEN LABORATORY...
I...I AM SORRY, MY BROTHER! YOU MUST FORGIVE MY ACTS ...AND REMEMBER MY MENTAL CONDITION!
THERE IS NO USE! HE WILL NOT BE DECEIVED BY ME AGAIN!
PERFECT! BLACK BOLT HAS LEFT THE WRIST RAY UNGUARDED!
BLACK BOLT! I BEG OF YOU! DO NOT DESTROY THE SUBSTANCE! THINK OF THE POWER IT WOULD GIVE YOU...IF YOU CAN LEARN TO CONTROL IT!
I HAVE IT! NOW I NEED ONLY GAIN THE TIME TO UTILIZE IT...
AT THAT PRECISE INSTANT...
THE WRIST RAY... IT IS GONE!
IF SOMEONE CAN USE IT... IT COULD RELEASE THE SUBSTANCE ...AND DOOM THE ENTIRE WORLD!


THEN, AS BLACK BOLT STRUGGLES TO RECOVER FROM SHEER SHOCK...
THERE! THE POWER BELT IS AROUND MY WAIST...AND THE RAY IS READY TO OPERATE!
NOW I NEED ONLY REACH MY COMRADES...AND THE HULK, BEFORE BLACK BOLT CAN ACT!

AND, SPEAKING OF HULKY...
SKREEE!
SKRAAAK!
BIRDS...ATTACK FROM EVERYWHERE! BURYING HULK...SO MANY...CAN'T FIGHT THEM ALL OFF!

HOWEVER, THE HULK WON'T NEED TO DEFEAT THE BIRDS PHYSICALLY, FOR, AT THAT MOMENT...BLACK BOLT IN HIS FRANTIC SEARCH FOR THE WRIST RAY SEES MILLIONS OF BIRDS...IN THE TRIAL ARENA! HE REALIZES IT CAN ONLY BE THE DOING OF FALCONA!

THROUGH CONTROL OF THE VERY ATMOSPHERE, BLACK BOLT SHATTERS HER POWER OVER THE CREATURES...
THE...AIR... SUDDENLY...VERY THIN! I...CAN HARDLY...BREATHE!

AND, WITHIN A FEW SECONDS, THE CARNIVOROUS BIRDS FLY CRAZILY INTO THE DISTANCE... DESPERATELY IN SEARCH OF A LUNGFULL OF PRECIOUS AIR! THEN...
WE CAN BREATHE AGAIN! YOU ONLY REMOVED THE AIR FROM OUR ATMOSPHERE LONG ENOUGH TO PANIC THE BIRDS...AND MAKE THEM FLEE!
BUT NOW, YOU HAVE LEFT IN THEIR WAKE A FAR GREATER MENACE... THE GREEN-SKINNED GIANT!
BIRDS ARE GONE...BUT MEN STILL STAND TO CHALLENGE HULK!
BUT, LET THEM COME! HULK WILL BEAT ALL OF THEM!
SEE, BLACK BOLT? HE'S BERSERK... THINKING ONLY OF CRUSHING EVERYTHING THAT STANDS IN HIS PATH!
EVER SINCE HULK WAS BROUGHT HERE...MEN HAVE TRIED TO USE HIM ...AND DESTROY HIM!
NOW HULK HAS HAD ENOUGH! SO, EITHER ATTACK ME...OR HULK WILL ATTACK YOU!
THEN, BEFORE BLACK BOLT CAN SIZE UP THE SITUATION...
YOU'VE WAITED TOO LONG!
NOW HULK WILL FIGHT YOU...TO THE FINISH!
44

THE GIANT DARES TO STRIKE BLACK BOLT!
NOW SURELY OUR LEADER WILL SEE THAT HE IS EVIL... AND HE WILL SMITE THE INTRUDER DOWN!
DO NOT BE TOO CERTAIN! LOOK...THE CREATURE ADVANCES ON BLACK BOLT AGAIN!

HULK HIT YOU ONCE... AND YOU'RE STILL STANDING...
...BUT NO ONE STANDS AFTER HULK SMASHES HIM A SECOND TIME!

BUT, AS THE RAGING GREEN GOLIATH MOVES IN FOR THE KILL...
KERWHACKKK!
UNNHHH!

THEN, BEFORE THE STUNNED HULK CAN CLAMBER TO HIS FEET... BLACK BOLT STRIKES HIM ONCE MORE WITH A DEADLY ELECTRON BLAST...
ZZZAAAATTTT!
AAGGGHHH!

HOWEVER, IN SPITE OF THE INCOMPARABLE FORCES UTILIZED AGAINST HIM... THE HULK KNOWS NOT THE MEANING OF DEFEAT...
...AND THE PILE-DRIVING BLOW OF HIS GARGANTUAN FIST TO THE GROUND SENDS THE INHUMAN MONARCH TUMBLING TO THE GROUND...

YOU'RE LIKE ALL THE OTHERS! THINK ONLY OF KILLING HULK! NEVER TRY TO UNDERSTAND!
BUT YOU'RE THEIR LEADER... AND IF HULK BEATS YOU... THEN MAYBE OTHERS WILL LEAVE ME ALONE!
PUNY RAYS CAN'T HURT HULK IF THEY CAN'T HIT HIM! AND HULK WON'T GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO USE THEM AGAIN!

...YOU ARE STRONG...BUT NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO BEAT HULK HAND-TO-HAND! NOW YOU CAN GIVE UP...OR HULK WILL CRUSH YOU WITH HIS BARE HANDS!

BUT, AS THE SHEER, BRUTE STRENGTH OF THE HULK IS ABOUT TO CRUSH THE VERY ***LIFE*** FROM BLACK BOLT'S BODY...THE MOST POWERFUL OF ALL INHUMANS DESPERATELY RESORTS TO THE MOST DEADLY POWER OF ***ALL***... HE OPENS HIS MOUTH, AND ***WHISPERS ONE WORD***...CAUSING A WAVE OF ***SONIC SOUND***...

PRAYING ALL THE WHILE THAT THE GREAT, MUSCLE-LADEN TISSUES OF THE HULK'S BODY WILL ABSORB THE ***BRUNT*** OF THE SONIC BOLT'S DESTRUCTIVE POWERS--!

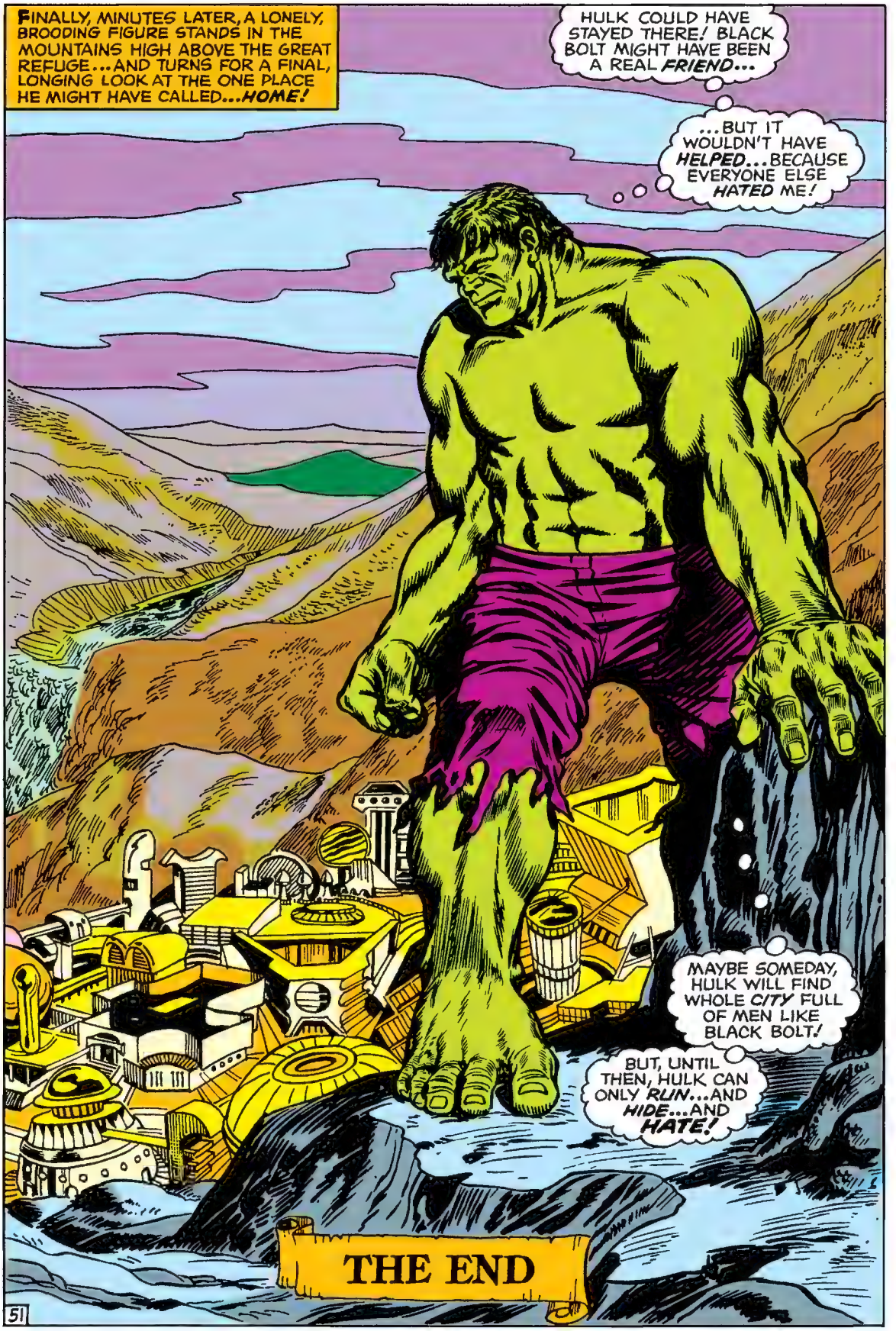
THEN, AS THE VIBRATIONS WHICH HAVE SHAKEN THE VERY ***FOUNDATIONS*** OF THE GREAT REFUGE GRADUALLY SUBSIDE...BLACK BOLT SEES THAT HIS GAMBLE HAS ***PAID OFF!*** THE DEVASTATING BOLT WAS ENOUGH TO ***FREE*** HIM OF THE HULK...*

*IF YOU THINK THAT ***CRATER*** IS SOMETHING, JUST REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED ONCE WHEN BLACK BOLT ***SHOUTED***--OR ELSE LOOK IT UP IN ***F.F. #57!***

AS BLACK BOLT MOVES TO STAND OVER THE STILL, ALMOST LIFELESS FORM OF HIS FALLEN ADVERSARY ...HIS ATTENTION IS SUDDENLY DIVERTED BY A GRIM, DEADLY CHALLENGE FROM BEHIND...
SURRENDER YOUR THRONE, BLACK BOLT...OR BE HELD FOREVER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORLD'S DESTRUCTION!
MAKE YOUR DECISION QUICKLY... FOR EVEN NOW I BEGIN TO UNLEASH THE VERY POWER WHICH CAN SPELL THE END FOR US ALL!
INVISIBLE MAN... WHO PRETENDED TO BE HULK'S FRIEND... THREATENING TO KILL EVERYONE!
HULK TIRED... MUSCLES ACHING ...BUT MUST STOP SHADOW MAN!
GET OUT OF THE WAY! THIS IS HULK'S FIGHT!
STOP! YOU WITLESS FOOL! I'M YOUR FRIEND! YOU DON'T WANT TO FIGHT ME!
SHADOW-MAN LIES! YOU ONLY USED HULK ...AND NOW HULK WILL PUNISH YOU FOR IT!
KERRAACCKK!
YOU'VE MADE A FOOL OF HULK FOR THE LAST TIME!

THEN, AS NEBULO COLLAPSES FROM THE FORCE OF THE HULK'S BLOW...
NEBULO HAS FALLEN... AND BLACK BOLT LEAPS FOR THE WEAPON!
:UUNNHH!: WEAPON'S RAYS AGAIN STRIKE...
QUICKLY...MOVE IN TO ARREST NEBULO!
BEFORE THE WRATH OF THE HULK CAN ONCE AGAIN BE AROUSED...
YOU GIVE HULK HAND...TO HELP HIM UP!
HULK DOESN'T UNDERSTAND! FIRST YOU FIGHT HULK...THEN YOU HELP HIM!
WHY DO YOU ASSIST THE CREATURE, BLACK BOLT? HE NEARLY DESTROYED THE REFUGE!
HE SHOULD BE EXECUTED BEFORE HE CAN RUN WILD AMONG US AGAIN!
BUT, BLACK BOLT SIGNIFIED HIS ANSWER IS NO!
BLACK BOLT DECREES THAT THE GREEN ONE BE SPARED... JUST AS HE HAS SPARED US ALL FROM THE TYRANNY OF NEBULO!
BUT, HE WASN'T TRYING TO SAVE US! HE ONLY SOUGHT REVENGE ON NEBULO! GORGON MAINTAINS THAT HE SHOULD BE DESTROYED!
PEOPLE STILL HATE HULK...SO HULK'S FIGHT STILL ISN'T FINISHED!
BUT, AS THE HULK'S BLOOD ONCE MORE BEGINS TO BOIL--AND AS BLACK BOLT ATTEMPTS TO SHOW HIM THAT HE MEANS NO FURTHER HARM...

BLACK BOLT IS MY RULER...BUT HIS HEART IS TOO SOFT! IS THERE NO WAY I CAN MAKE HIM SEE THE DEADLY MENACE THIS MONSTER PRESENTS TO US!
BRUUUNH!
AND, IN BITTER FRUSTRATION GORGON STAMPS HIS FOOT ON THE GROUND...SETTING OFF A TREMOR WHICH KNOCKS BOTH THE HULK AND BLACK BOLT OFF THEIR FEET...
BUT, AS THE HULK STORMS TOWARD GORGON...
WAIT! BLACK BOLT WISHES YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT WAS NOT OF HIS DOING!
HE BIDS THE HULK LISTEN TO HIM...FOR BLACK BOLT DOES UNDERSTAND!
BLACK BOLT REALIZES THAT THE HULK HAS SPENT A LIFETIME OF RECLUSE...
...BUT NOW HE OFFERS YOU SOMETHING BETTER---FRIENDSHIP...AND REFUGE...HERE, AMONG US!
NO!
MAYBE BLACK BOLT UNDERSTANDS...BUT OTHER PEOPLE DON'T! THEY STILL FEAR HULK...
...SO, NO MATTER WHAT BLACK BOLT SAYS, HULK COULD NEVER LIVE HERE IN PEACE!
THEN, AT LEAST LEAVE HERE IN PEACE... AND KNOW THAT BLACK BOLT SHALL BE FOREVER INDEBTED TO YOU!
AND NOW, BLACK BOLT BIDS YOU FAREWELL... AND GODSPEED!


FINALLY, MINUTES LATER, A LONELY, BROODING FIGURE STANDS IN THE MOUNTAINS HIGH ABOVE THE GREAT REFUGE...AND TURNS FOR A FINAL, LONGING LOOK AT THE ONE PLACE HE MIGHT HAVE CALLED...HOME!
HULK COULD HAVE STAYED THERE! BLACK BOLT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A REAL FRIEND...
...BUT IT WOULDN'T HAVE HELPED...BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE HATED ME!
MAYBE SOMEDAY, HULK WILL FIND WHOLE CITY FULL OF MEN LIKE BLACK BOLT!
BUT, UNTIL THEN, HULK CAN ONLY RUN...AND HIDE...AND HATE!
THE END

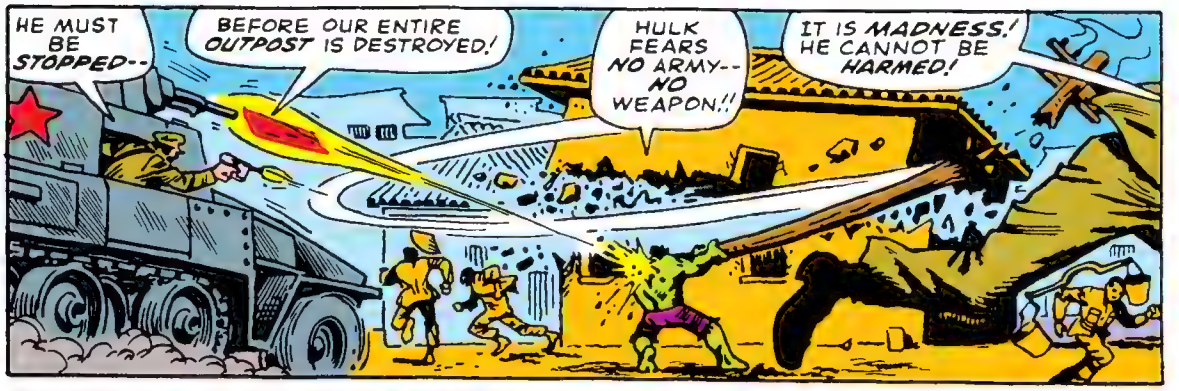
A MARVEL MASTERWORK PIN-UP
THE INCREDIBLE
HULK
--HAS BEEN DRAWN BY MORE DIFFERENT ARTISTS THAN ALMOST ANY OTHER MARVEL SUPERSTAR!
CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE VARIOUS ILLUSTRATORS REPRESENTED ON THIS PAGE? TO GIVE YOU A CLUE, WE TOSSED IN THEIR INITIALS!
--SOFT HEARTED STAN.
J.K. & D.A.
S.D.
M.D.
J.K. & J.R.
M.S.
J.K. & J.S.
B.E.
H.T.
J.R.
J.B. & J.V.
G.K.

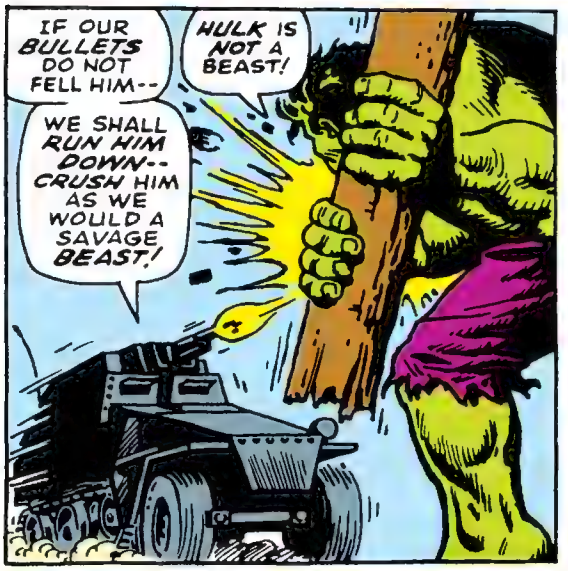
HULK
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
109 NOV
THE LOST LAND OF KA-ZAR
TRIMPE & SEVERIN

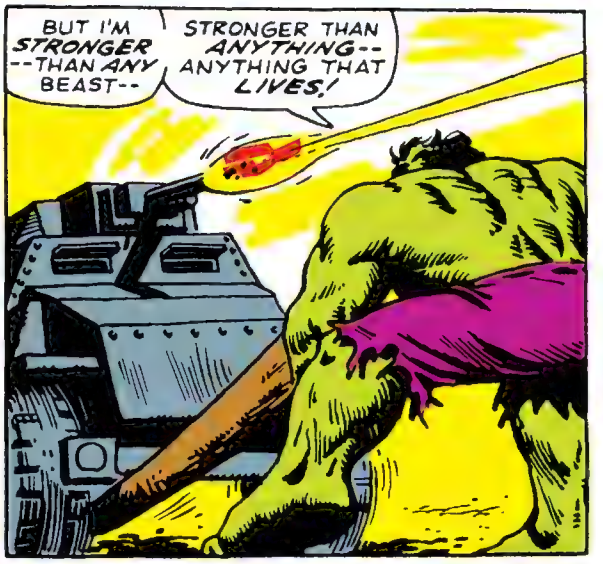
THE INCREDIBLE HULK!™

"THE MONSTER AND THE MAN-BEAST!"
SCRIPT.....SMILIN' STAN LEE
LAYOUTS.....FEARLESS FRANK GIACOIA
PENCILLING...HAPPY HERBY TRIMPE
INKING.....JOVIAL JOHNNY SEVERIN
LETTERING...ADORABLE ARTIE SIMEK
OR, IN THE IMMORTAL WORDS OF IRVING FORBUSH: "ANOTHER FINE MESS THEY GOT US INTO!"
ENEMY SOLDIERS--SHOOTING AT HULK!
ALL THEY KNOW IS--KILL!/KILL!/KILL!
NOW HULK WILL TEACH THEM--ANOTHER LESSON!
REMEMBER LAST ISH? OL' GREEN SKIN SMASHED THE MANDARIN'S CASTLE TO A PILE OF RUBBLE, AND THEN CUT OUT BEFORE ANYONE COULD TRY TO STOP HIM...
AND NOW, WANDERING AIMLESSLY THRU THE HEARTLAND OF RED CHINA, THE INCREDIBLE HULK REACHES A LONELY MILITARY INSTALLATION--

MORE OF THEM!
KRAK!
KRAK!
SHOOTING FROM ALL SIDES!
KRAK!
KRAK!
KRAK!
YOU TRY TO KILL THE HULK?
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO-- TO TEACH THE WORLD--??
NOBODY-
CAN KILL THE HULK!
NOBODY!
2


HE MUST BE STOPPED--
BEFORE OUR ENTIRE OUTPOST IS DESTROYED!
HULK FEARS NO ARMY-- NO WEAPON!!
IT IS MADNESS! HE CANNOT BE HARMED!

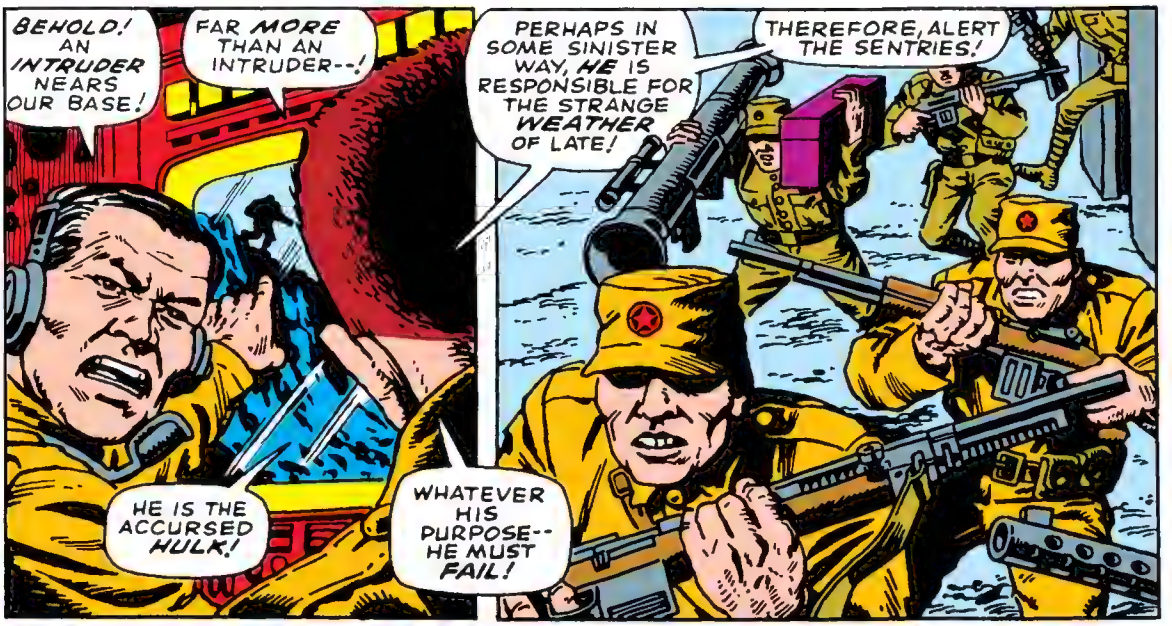

IF OUR BULLETS DO NOT FELL HIM--
HULK IS NOT A BEAST!
WE SHALL RUN HIM DOWN-- CRUSH HIM AS WE WOULD A SAVAGE BEAST!


BUT I'M STRONGER --THAN ANY BEAST--
STRONGER THAN ANYTHING-- ANYTHING THAT LIVES!

NOTHING CAN CRUSH THE HULK!

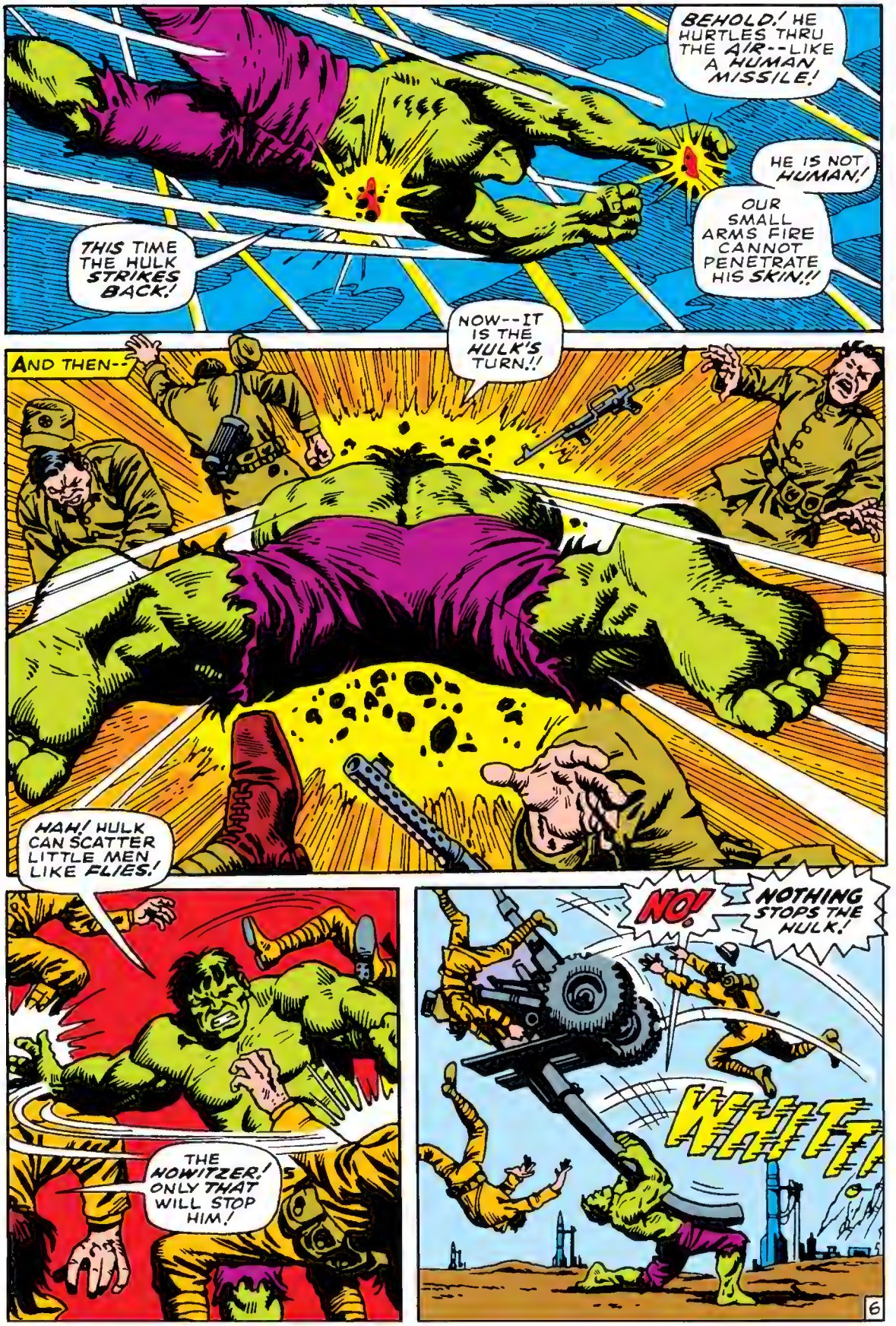
I CAN DESTROY ANY ENEMY--
--AS EASY-- AND AS FAST--AS THIS!
NOW! WHILE HIS BACK IS TURNED--
FIRE!
IF HE LIVES-- YOUR LIVES ARE FORFEIT!
3

THEY DON'T LISTEN! THEY DON'T BELIEVE! THEY CAN'T UNDERSTAND!
DO I HAVE TO KILL THEM ALL?
NO! HULK IS SICK OF FIGHTING-- OF HURTING!
THEY ALL MEAN LESS THAN NOTHING--TO ME!
SUN IS SETTING-- DAY GROWS DARK!
BUT--IT CAN'T BE! IT'S STILL EARLY! IT'S STILL MORNING!
WHAT DOES HULK CARE!
EVERY-THING IS WRONG!
WORLD IS CRAZY-- FILLED WITH MADMEN!
THEN--WHY SHOULDN'T WEATHER BE CRAZY, TOO?
MAYBE UP HERE--HULK WILL BE ABLE--TO REST!
BUT FIRST-- I'M HUNGRY! MUST FIND FOOD!
BUT, AS THE LUMBERING GOLIATH WALKS BETWEEN THE BEAM OF A HIDDEN ELECTRIC EYE ALARM, HE IS ABOUT TO FIND MORE--FAR, FAR MORE THAN HE BARGAINS FOR--!
BERRIES--NUTS-- ANYTHING!
HULK MUST HAVE FOOD!


BEHOLD! AN INTRUDER NEARS OUR BASE!
FAR MORE THAN AN INTRUDER--!
HE IS THE ACCURSED HULK!
PERHAPS IN SOME SINISTER WAY, HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STRANGE WEATHER OF LATE!
WHATEVER HIS PURPOSE--HE MUST FAIL!
THEREFORE, ALERT THE SENTRIES!

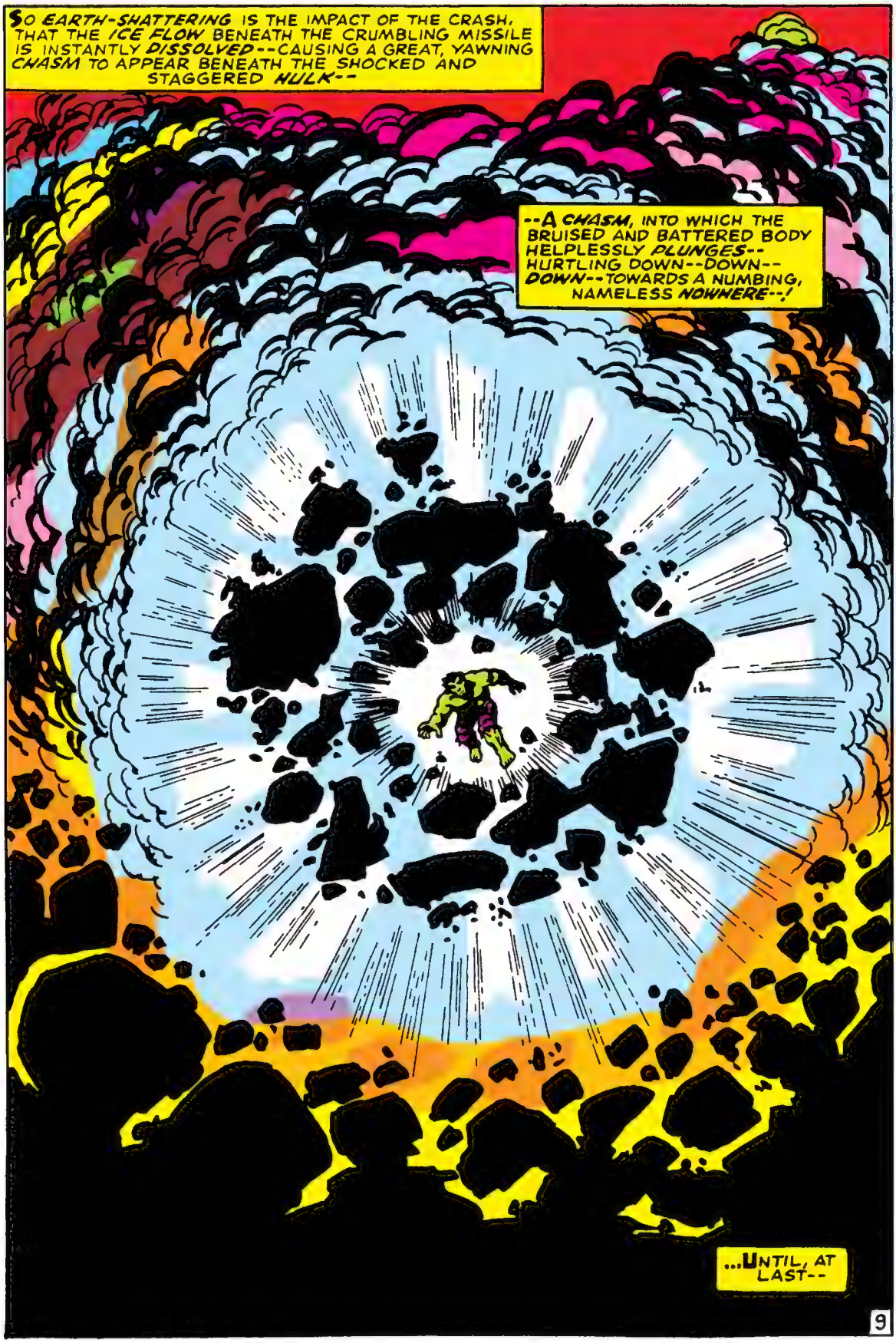
SECONDS LATER, SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE LIGHT OF THE MOON--A MOON WHICH INEXPLICABLY REACHES ITS ZENITH AT THE STROKE OF NOON--THE PURSUERS SIGHT THEIR LUMBERING QUARRY--
THERE--ON THE RIDGE--WE HAVE FOUND HIM!
IN TRUTH, THE GREEN-SKINNED MONSTER SHALL NOT ESCAPE US!
WE MUST COMMENCE FIRING--AT ONCE--BEFORE HE CAN SLIP AWAY!

PPTWEEEEE
MORE GUNS FIRING!
MORE BULLETS--HITTING ME!
THIS TIME--THEY HAVE GONE--TOO FAR!

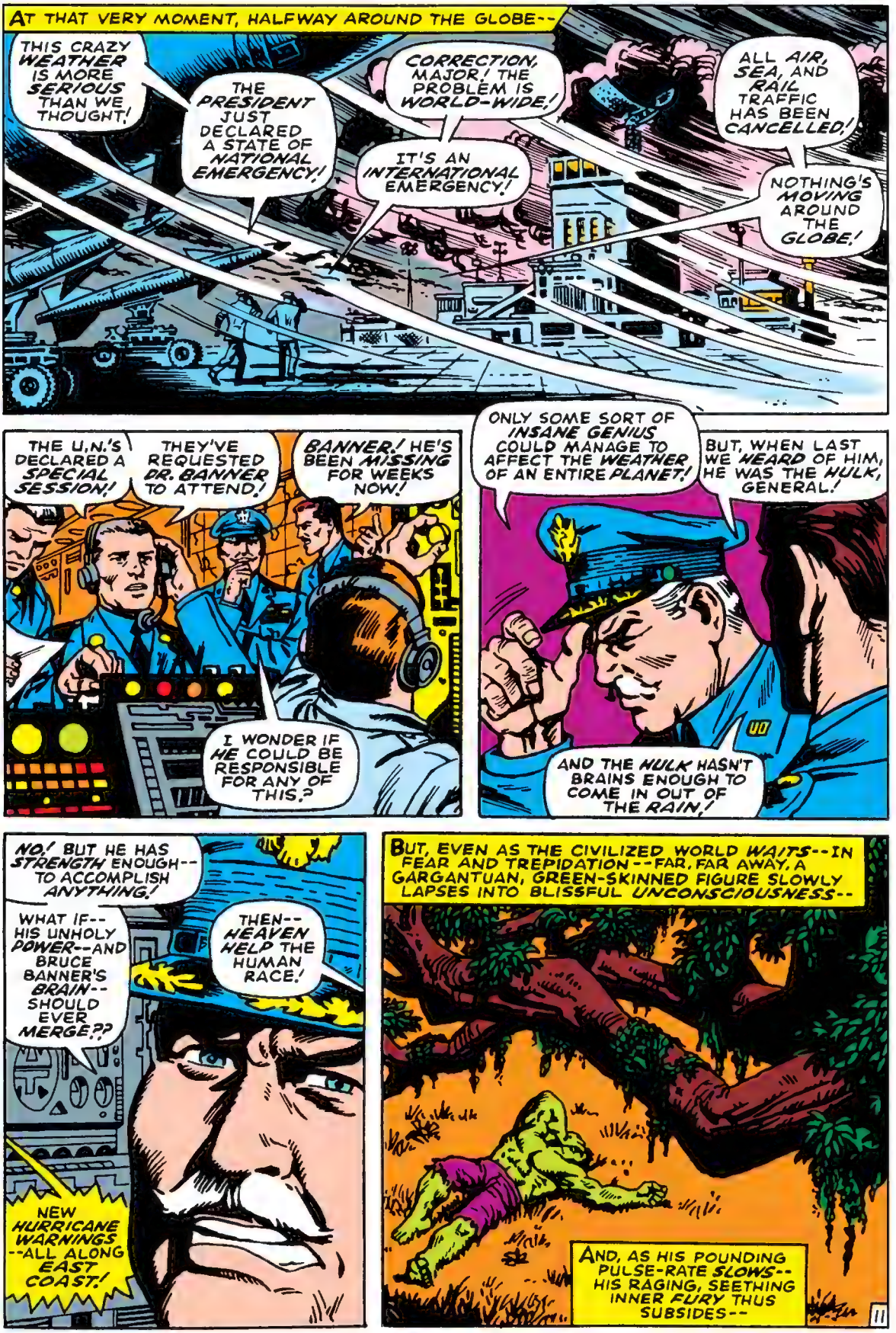

BEHOLD! HE HURTLES THRU THE AIR--LIKE A HUMAN MISSILE!
HE IS NOT HUMAN!
OUR SMALL ARMS FIRE CANNOT PENETRATE HIS SKIN!!
THIS TIME THE HULK STRIKES BACK!
AND THEN--
NOW--IT IS THE HULK'S TURN!!
HAH! HULK CAN SCATTER LITTLE MEN LIKE FLIES!
THE HOWITZER! ONLY THAT WILL STOP HIM!
NO!
NOTHING STOPS THE HULK!
WHEE
6

NOTHING CAN EVER STOP THE HULK!
HE IS A DEVIL! HE CANNOT BE SLAIN!
WE MUST LAUNCH THE MISSILE-- BEFORE HE DESTROYS IT!
BEGIN THE COUNT-DOWN!
FTOOOM!
WE HAVE SPENT YEARS ON THE MISSILE!
IT MUST NOT FAIL NOW!
ONCE IN ORBIT, IT WILL BE A CONSTANT THREAT TO THE YANKEE DOGS!
TEN! NINE!! EIGHT!!--
--SEVEN!! SIX!! FIVE!! FOUR!!--
SOME KIND OF SHIP-- READY TO GO-- INTO THE SKY!
THREE!! TWO!! ONE!!--
THERE IS NOTHING HERE FOR HULK!
WHEREVER SHIP GOES-- MAY BE A BETTER PLACE!
SOME PLACE WHERE HULK CAN LIVE--AS A MAN!
BLAST OFF!
THERE IS STILL TIME--IF HULK MOVES FAST ENOUGH!
TIME TO FIND A NEW--BETTER WORLD!!
ALL I HAVE TO DO--IS JUMP-- AND CATCH ONTO SHIP!
7

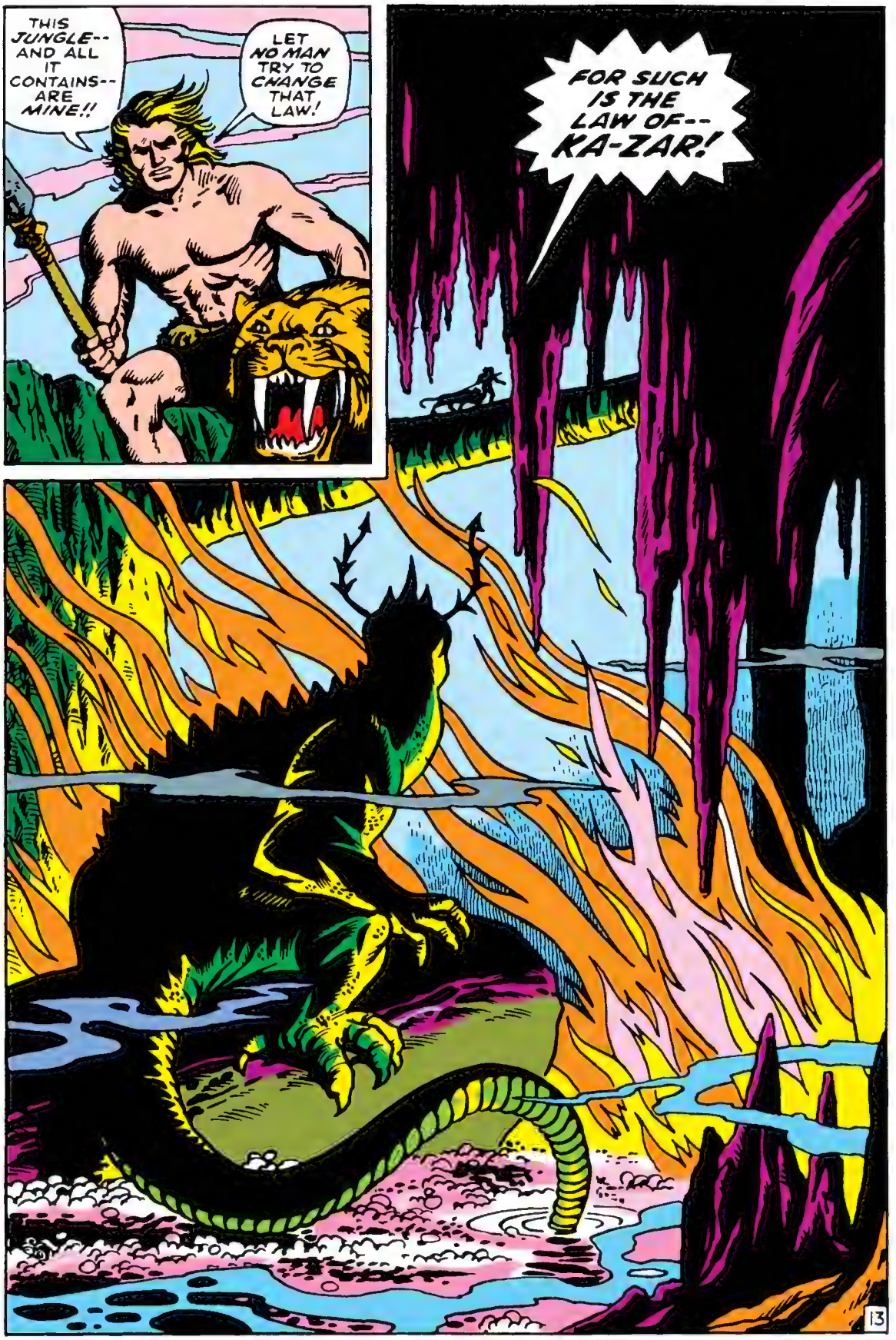
THUS, THE MOST POWERFUL LEGS EVER POSSESSED BY MORTAL MAN PROPEL THE WORLD'S STRONGEST BEING-- UP TOWARDS THE RAPIDLY RISING RED MISSILE--
MUSTN'T MISS! MUSTN'T LET IT GET AWAY!
HAH! I GOT IT!
NOW-- WHEREVER IT GOES--
HULK GOES, TOO!
SSKRUNCH!
BUT, ALAS--SO SENSITIVE--SO FINELY-CALIBRATED IS THE GIANT ROCKET--
--THAT THE ADDED BURDEN OF THE HULK'S GREAT WEIGHT CAUSES IT TO CHANGE TRAJECTORY--AND SO--IN THE BARREN WASTES OF ANTARCTICA, A FEW MINUTES LATER--
KOOOOM
8

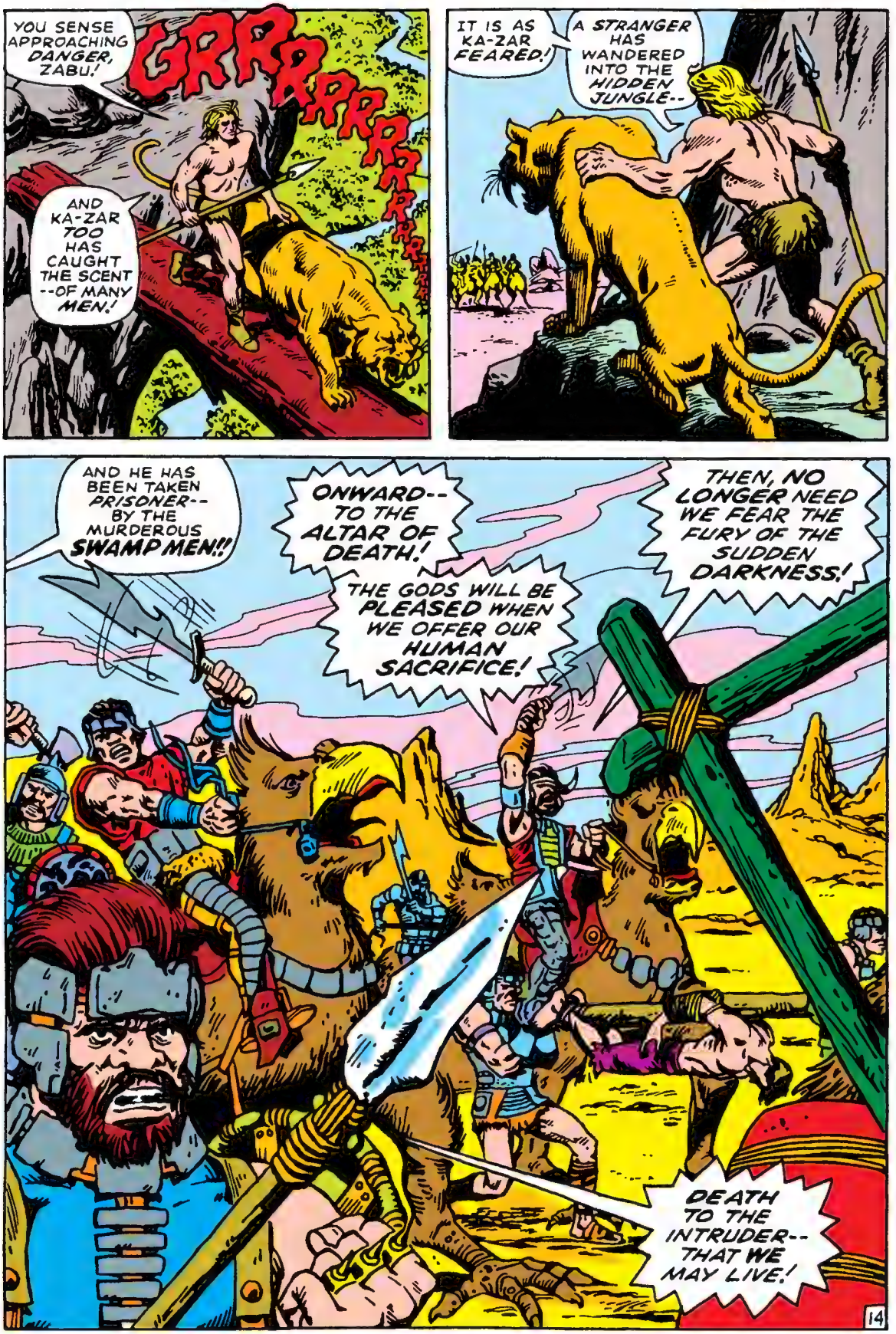

SO EARTH-SHATTERING IS THE IMPACT OF THE CRASH, THAT THE ICE FLOW BENEATH THE CRUMBLING MISSILE IS INSTANTLY DISSOLVED--CAUSING A GREAT, YAWNING CHASM TO APPEAR BENEATH THE SHOCKED AND STAGGERED HULK--
--A CHASM, INTO WHICH THE BRUISED AND BATTERED BODY HELPLESSLY PLUNGES--HURTLING DOWN--DOWN--DOWN--TOWARDS A NUMBING, NAMELESS NOWHERE--!
...UNTIL, AT LAST--

--THE SEEMINGLY INDESTRUCTIBLE BEHEMOTH COMES TO THE END OF HIS FANTASTIC FALL--
--IN A LUSH AND LONELY JUNGLE, THE LIKE OF WHICH THE SURFACE WORLD HAS NOT KNOWN---NOT IN A THOUSAND, THOUSAND YEARS--!!

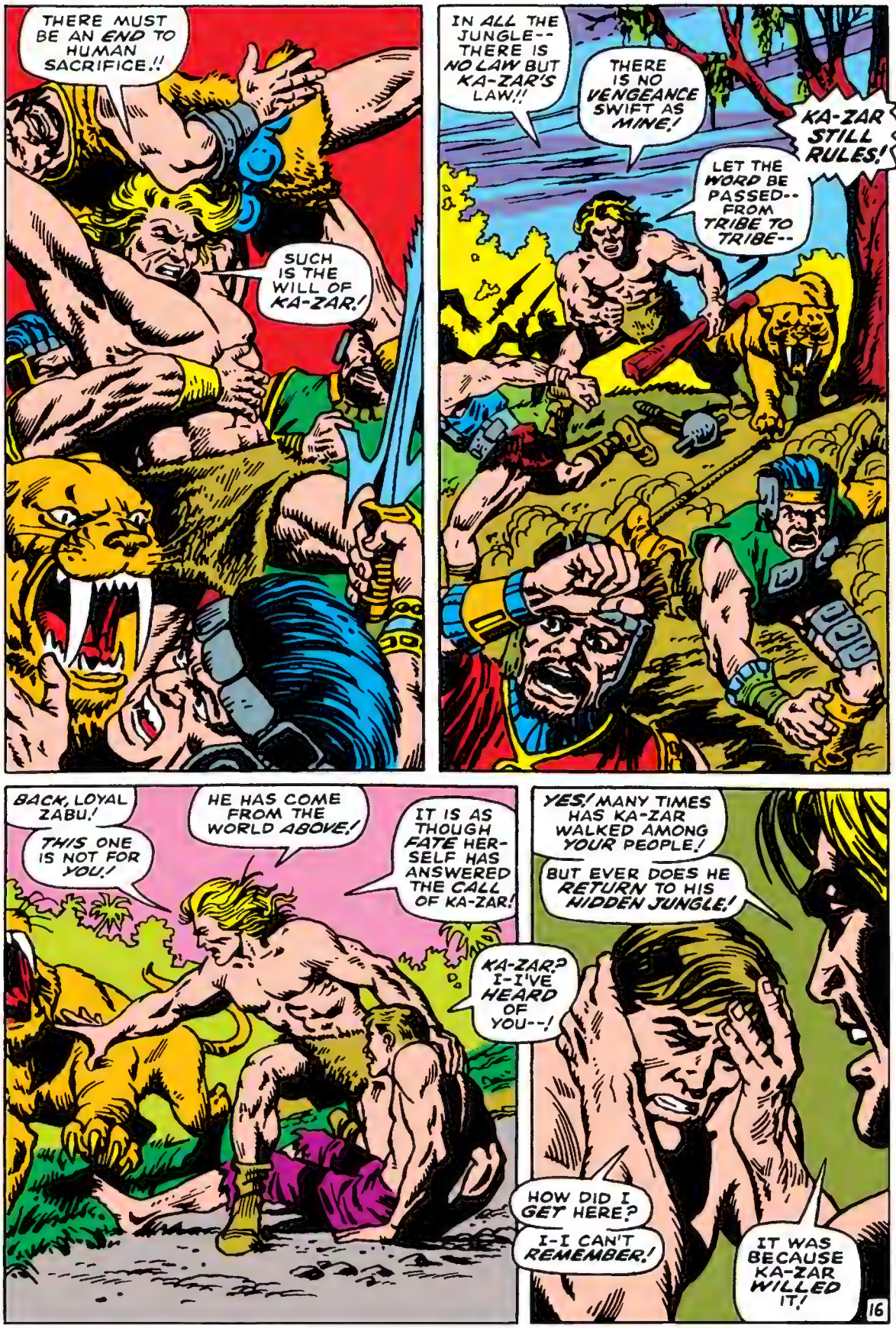

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, HALFWAY AROUND THE GLOBE--
THIS CRAZY WEATHER IS MORE SERIOUS THAN WE THOUGHT!
THE PRESIDENT JUST DECLARED A STATE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY!
CORRECTION, MAJOR! THE PROBLEM IS WORLD-WIDE!
IT'S AN INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY!
ALL AIR, SEA, AND RAIL TRAFFIC HAS BEEN CANCELLED!
NOTHING'S MOVING AROUND THE GLOBE!
THE U.N.'S DECLARED A SPECIAL SESSION!
THEY'VE REQUESTED DR. BANNER TO ATTEND!
BANNER! HE'S BEEN MISSING FOR WEEKS NOW!
I WONDER IF HE COULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY OF THIS?
ONLY SOME SORT OF INSANE GENIUS COULD MANAGE TO AFFECT THE WEATHER OF AN ENTIRE PLANET!
BUT, WHEN LAST WE HEARD OF HIM, HE WAS THE HULK, GENERAL!
AND THE HULK HASN'T BRAINS ENOUGH TO COME IN OUT OF THE RAIN!
NO! BUT HE HAS STRENGTH ENOUGH--TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING!
WHAT IF--HIS UNHOLY POWER--AND BRUCE BANNER'S BRAIN--SHOULD EVER MERGE??
THEN--HEAVEN HELP THE HUMAN RACE!
NEW HURRICANE WARNINGS--ALL ALONG EAST COAST!
BUT, EVEN AS THE CIVILIZED WORLD WAITS--IN FEAR AND TREPIDATION--FAR, FAR AWAY, A GARGANTUAN, GREEN-SKINNED FIGURE SLOWLY LAPSES INTO BLISSFUL UNCONSCIOUSNESS--
AND, AS HIS POUNDING PULSE-RATE SLOWS--HIS RAGING, SEETHING INNER FURY THUS SUBSIDES--
11

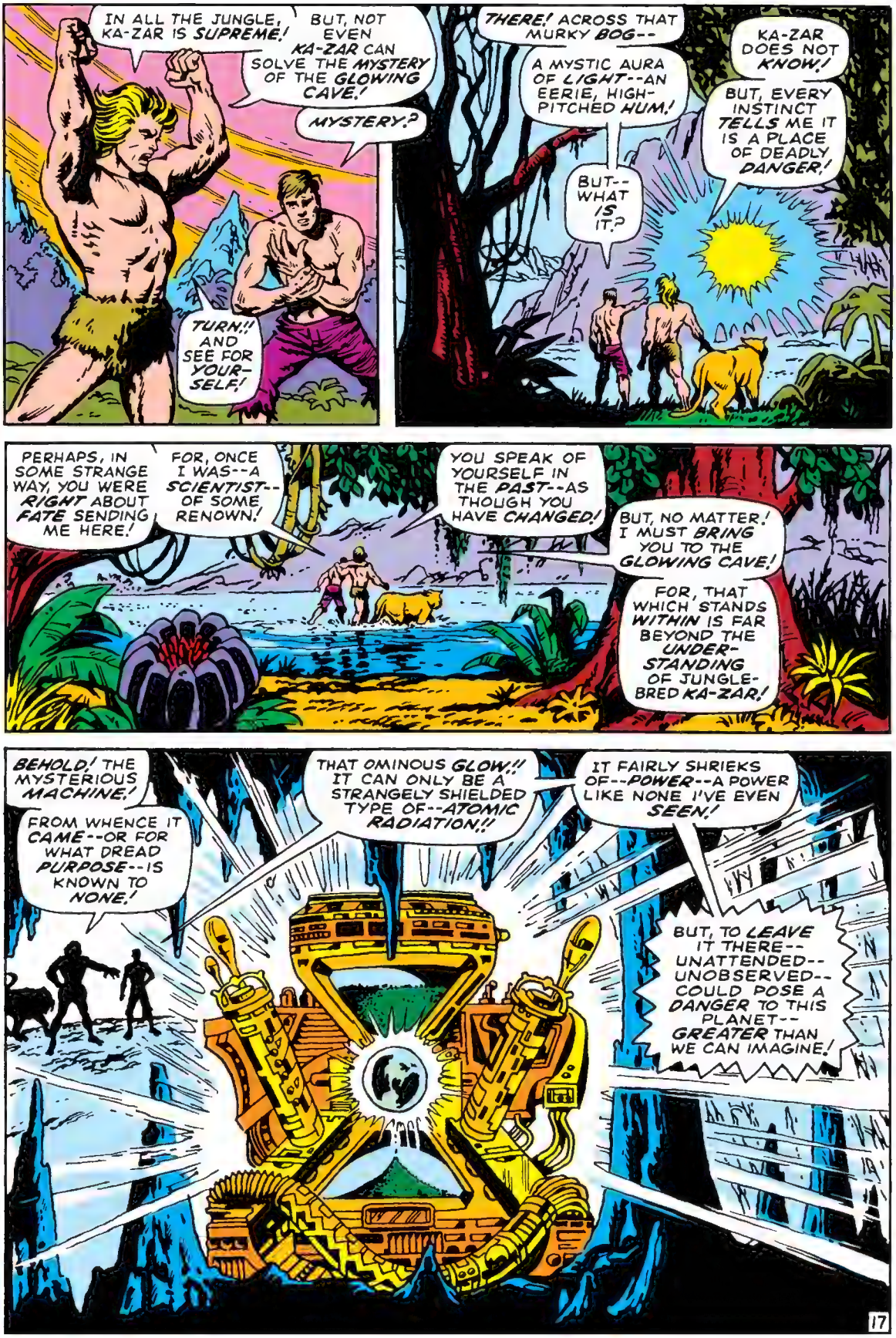
AND THEN, AWESOMELY, AGONIZINGLY, THE BRUTAL FEATURES SLOWLY CHANGE--AS THE BESTIAL FORM GROWS SMALLER--!
UNTIL, AT LAST--
--THE FAR MORE FRAIL AND PAIN-WRACKED FIGURE OF BRUCE BANNER SLEEPS HIS HURT AWAY--SLEEPS, AND DREAMS--
--AND FINALLY WAKES!
WHERE--AM I? WHAT HAPPENED--?
TOO WEAK! --CAN'T EVEN SIT UP!
I'M IN-- SOME SORT OF-- PRIMEVAL JUNGLE!
BUT-- WHERE?? AND HOW-- HOW DID I GET HERE?
HE'LL FIND OUT--SOON ENOUGH! BUT, WHILE HE'S WONDERING--
THE CRASH WAS NOT FAR FROM HERE, ZABU!
WE MUST MAKE HASTE!
12

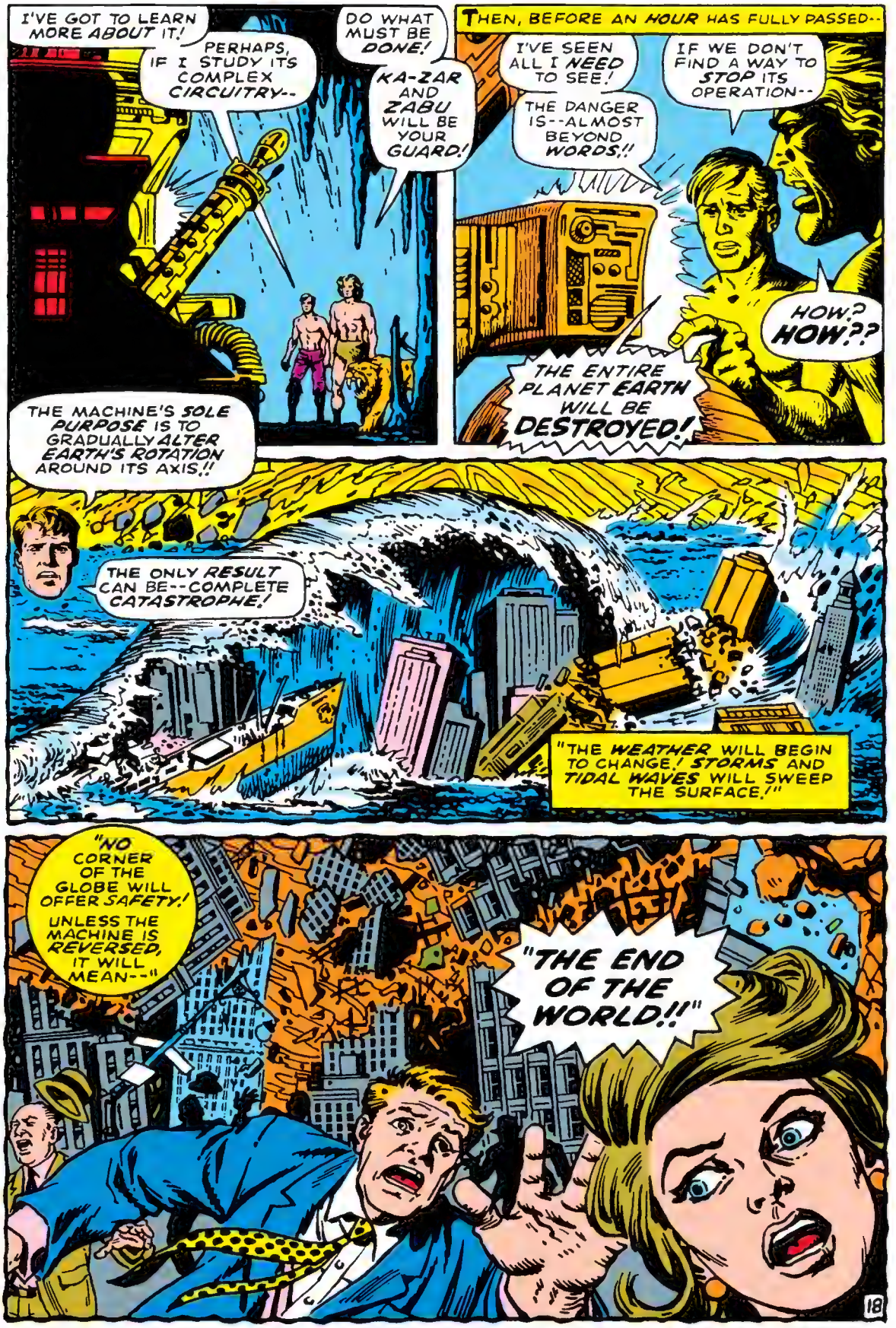

THIS JUNGLE-- AND ALL IT CONTAINS-- ARE MINE!!
LET NO MAN TRY TO CHANGE THAT LAW!
FOR SUCH IS THE LAW OF-- KA-ZAR!

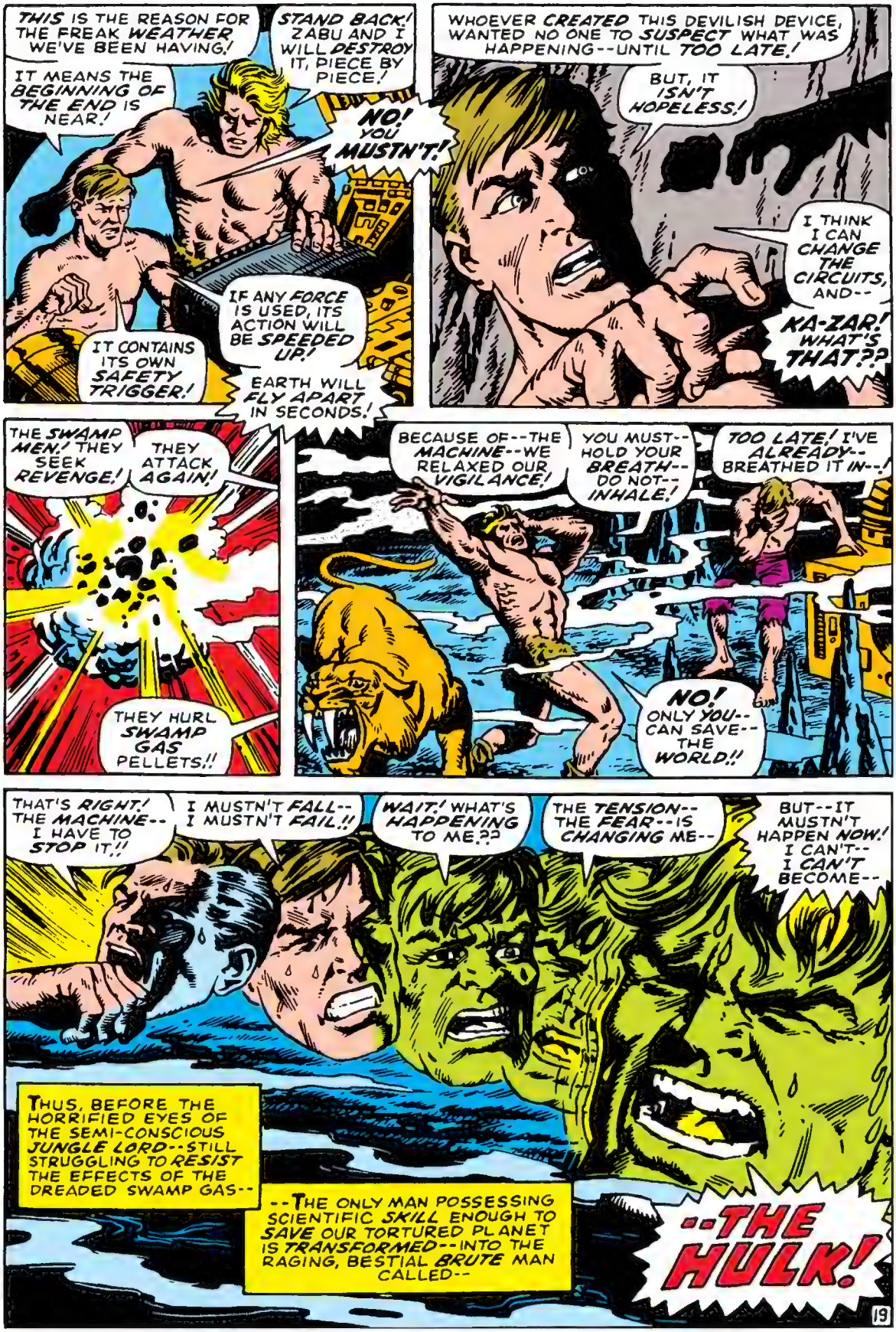

YOU SENSE APPROACHING DANGER, ZABU!
GRRRRRRRRRRRRR
AND KA-ZAR TOO HAS CAUGHT THE SCENT --OF MANY MEN!
IT IS AS KA-ZAR FEARED!
A STRANGER HAS WANDERED INTO THE HIDDEN JUNGLE--
AND HE HAS BEEN TAKEN PRISONER-- BY THE MURDEROUS SWAMP MEN!!
ONWARD-- TO THE ALTAR OF DEATH!
THE GODS WILL BE PLEASED WHEN WE OFFER OUR HUMAN SACRIFICE!
THEN, NO LONGER NEED WE FEAR THE FURY OF THE SUDDEN DARKNESS!
DEATH TO THE INTRUDER-- THAT WE MAY LIVE!

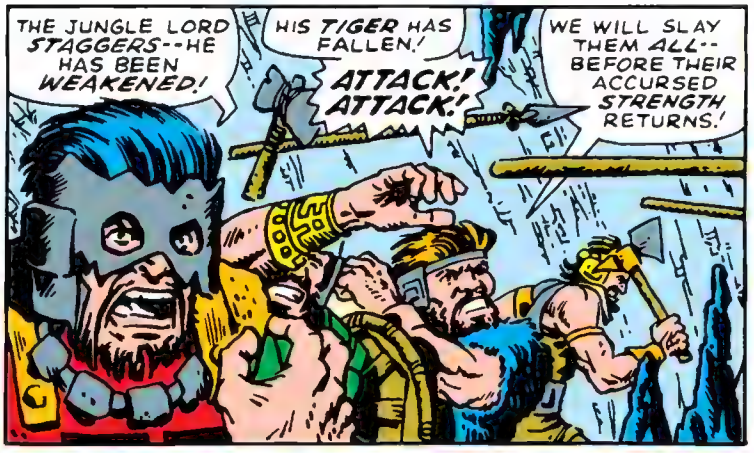
SO! THEY DARE TO BREAK THE LAW OF KA-ZAR!
FOR THAT, THEY MUST PAY THE PRICE!
THE TIME IS COME FOR THEM TO FACE...
THE WRATH OF KA-ZAR!
FOR NONE MAY BREAK THE JUNGLE LAW--
THE JUNGLE LORD ATTACKS!
HE IS ONE--AND WE ARE MANY--
AND STILL MY HEART KNOWS FEAR!

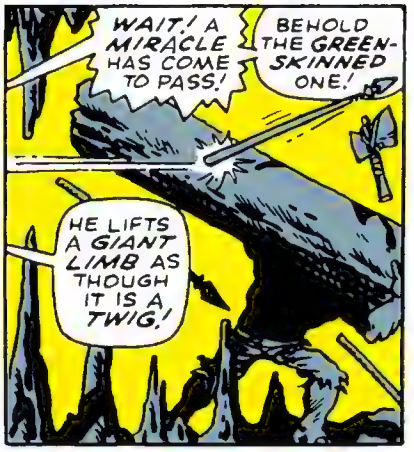

THERE MUST BE AN END TO HUMAN SACRIFICE!!
SUCH IS THE WILL OF KA-ZAR!
IN ALL THE JUNGLE-- THERE IS NO LAW BUT KA-ZAR'S LAW!!
THERE IS NO VENGEANCE SWIFT AS MINE!
KA-ZAR STILL RULES!
LET THE WORD BE PASSED-- FROM TRIBE TO TRIBE--
BACK, LOYAL ZABU!
THIS ONE IS NOT FOR YOU!
HE HAS COME FROM THE WORLD ABOVE!
IT IS AS THOUGH FATE HERSELF HAS ANSWERED THE CALL OF KA-ZAR!
KA-ZAR? I-I'VE HEARD OF YOU--!
YES! MANY TIMES HAS KA-ZAR WALKED AMONG YOUR PEOPLE!
BUT EVER DOES HE RETURN TO HIS HIDDEN JUNGLE!
HOW DID I GET HERE?
I-I CAN'T REMEMBER!
IT WAS BECAUSE KA-ZAR WILLED IT!
16

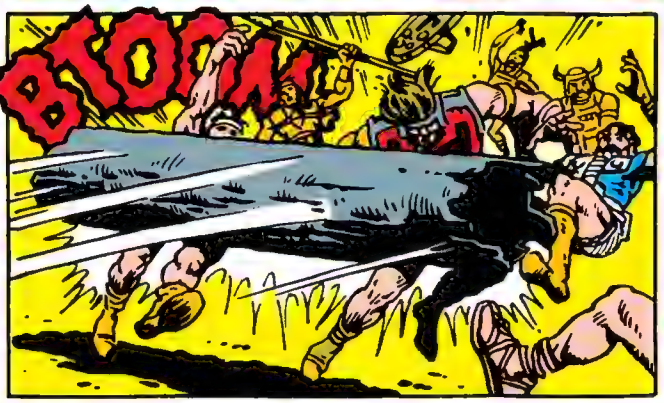

IN ALL THE JUNGLE, KA-ZAR IS SUPREME!
BUT, NOT EVEN KA-ZAR CAN SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THE GLOWING CAVE!
MYSTERY?
TURN!! AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!
THERE! ACROSS THAT MURKY BOG--
A MYSTIC AURA OF LIGHT--AN EERIE, HIGH-PITCHED HUM!
BUT--WHAT IS IT?
KA-ZAR DOES NOT KNOW!
BUT, EVERY INSTINCT TELLS ME IT IS A PLACE OF DEADLY DANGER!
PERHAPS, IN SOME STRANGE WAY, YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT FATE SENDING ME HERE!
FOR, ONCE I WAS--A SCIENTIST--OF SOME RENOWN!
YOU SPEAK OF YOURSELF IN THE PAST--AS THOUGH YOU HAVE CHANGED!
BUT, NO MATTER! I MUST BRING YOU TO THE GLOWING CAVE!
FOR, THAT WHICH STANDS WITHIN IS FAR BEYOND THE UNDER-STANDING OF JUNGLE-BRED KA-ZAR!
BEHOLD! THE MYSTERIOUS MACHINE!
FROM WHENCE IT CAME--OR FOR WHAT DREAD PURPOSE--IS KNOWN TO NONE!
THAT OMINOUS GLOW!! IT CAN ONLY BE A STRANGELY SHIELDED TYPE OF--ATOMIC RADIATION!!
IT FAIRLY SHRIEKS OF--POWER--A POWER LIKE NONE I'VE EVEN SEEN!
BUT, TO LEAVE IT THERE--UNATTENDED--UNOBSERVED--COULD POSE A DANGER TO THIS PLANET--GREATER THAN WE CAN IMAGINE!

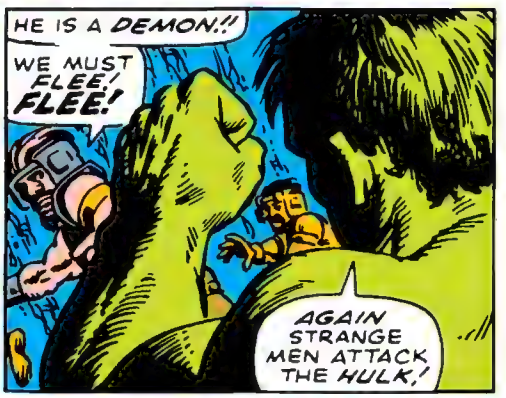

I'VE GOT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT IT!
PERHAPS, IF I STUDY ITS COMPLEX CIRCUITRY--
DO WHAT MUST BE DONE!
KA-ZAR AND ZABU WILL BE YOUR GUARD!
THEN, BEFORE AN HOUR HAS FULLY PASSED--
I'VE SEEN ALL I NEED TO SEE!
THE DANGER IS--ALMOST BEYOND WORDS!!
IF WE DON'T FIND A WAY TO STOP ITS OPERATION--
HOW? HOW??
THE ENTIRE PLANET EARTH WILL BE DESTROYED!
THE MACHINE'S SOLE PURPOSE IS TO GRADUALLY ALTER EARTH'S ROTATION AROUND ITS AXIS!!
THE ONLY RESULT CAN BE--COMPLETE CATASTROPHE!
"THE WEATHER WILL BEGIN TO CHANGE! STORMS AND TIDAL WAVES WILL SWEEP THE SURFACE!"
"NO CORNER OF THE GLOBE WILL OFFER SAFETY! UNLESS THE MACHINE IS REVERSED, IT WILL MEAN--"!
"THE END OF THE WORLD!!"

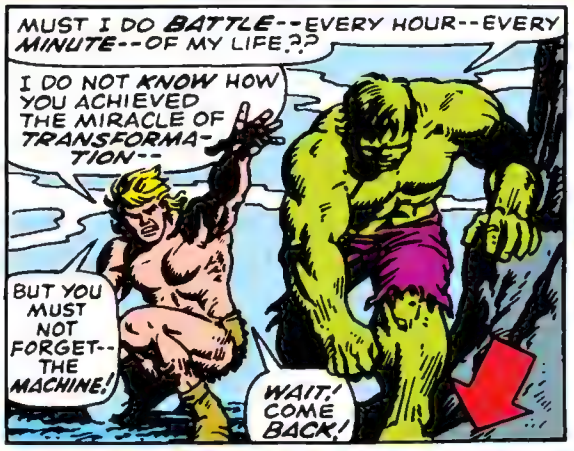

THIS IS THE REASON FOR THE FREAK WEATHER WE'VE BEEN HAVING!
IT MEANS THE BEGINNING OF THE END IS NEAR!
STAND BACK! ZABU AND I WILL DESTROY IT, PIECE BY PIECE!
NO! YOU MUSTN'T!
IT CONTAINS ITS OWN SAFETY TRIGGER!
IF ANY FORCE IS USED, ITS ACTION WILL BE SPEEDED UP!
EARTH WILL FLY APART IN SECONDS!
WHOEVER CREATED THIS DEVILISH DEVICE, WANTED NO ONE TO SUSPECT WHAT WAS HAPPENING--UNTIL TOO LATE!
BUT, IT ISN'T HOPELESS!
I THINK I CAN CHANGE THE CIRCUITS, AND--
KA-ZAR! WHAT'S THAT??
THE SWAMP MEN! THEY SEEK REVENGE!
THEY ATTACK AGAIN!
THEY HURL SWAMP GAS PELLETS!!
BECAUSE OF--THE MACHINE--WE RELAXED OUR VIGILANCE!
YOU MUST--HOLD YOUR BREATH--DO NOT--INHALE!
TOO LATE! I'VE ALREADY--BREATHED IT IN--!
NO! ONLY YOU--CAN SAVE--THE WORLD!!
THAT'S RIGHT! THE MACHINE--I HAVE TO STOP IT!!
I MUSTN'T FALL--I MUSTN'T FAIL!!
WAIT! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME??
THE TENSION--THE FEAR--IS CHANGING ME--
BUT--IT MUSTN'T HAPPEN NOW! I CAN'T--I CAN'T BECOME--
THUS, BEFORE THE HORRIFIED EYES OF THE SEMI-CONSCIOUS JUNGLE LORD--STILL STRUGGLING TO RESIST THE EFFECTS OF THE DREADED SWAMP GAS--
--THE ONLY MAN POSSESSING SCIENTIFIC SKILL ENOUGH TO SAVE OUR TORTURED PLANET IS TRANSFORMED--INTO THE RAGING, BESTIAL BRUTE MAN CALLED--
--THE HULK!

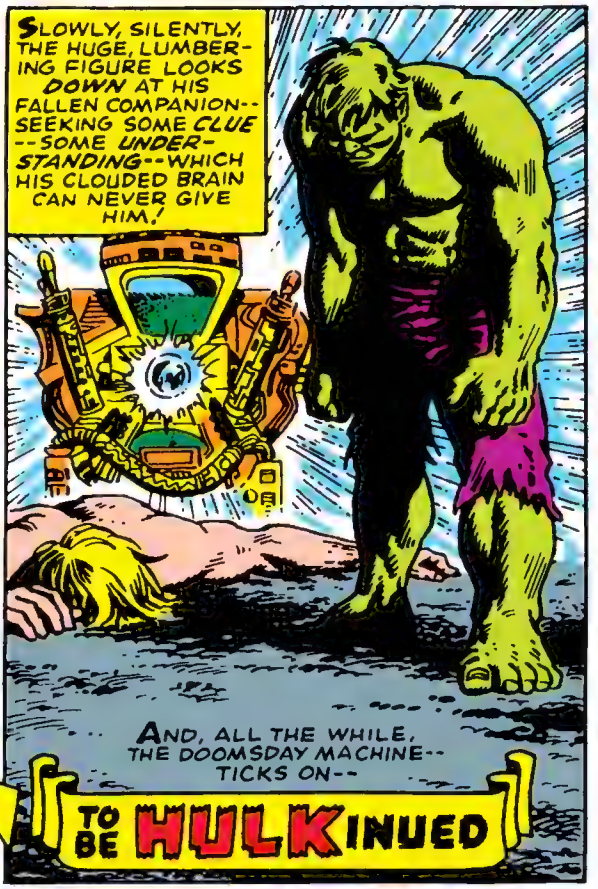

THE JUNGLE LORD STAGGERS--HE HAS BEEN WEAKENED!
HIS TIGER HAS FALLEN!
ATTACK! ATTACK!
WE WILL SLAY THEM ALL--BEFORE THEIR ACCURSED STRENGTH RETURNS!

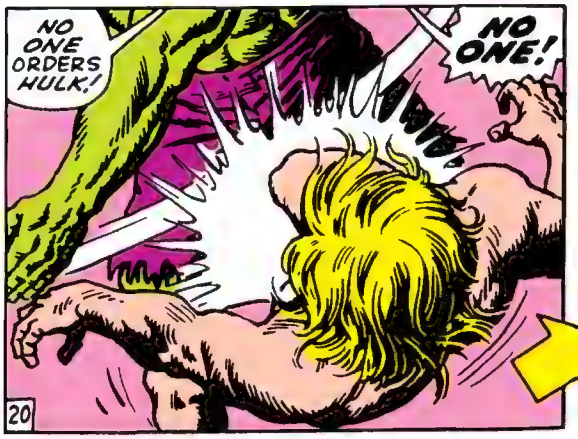

WAIT! A MIRACLE HAS COME TO PASS!
BEHOLD THE GREEN-SKINNED ONE!
HE LIFTS A GIANT LIMB AS THOUGH IT IS A TWIG!


BTOOM


HE IS A DEMON!!
WE MUST FLEE! FLEE!
AGAIN STRANGE MEN ATTACK THE HULK!


MUST I DO BATTLE--EVERY HOUR--EVERY MINUTE--OF MY LIFE?!?
I DO NOT KNOW HOW YOU ACHIEVED THE MIRACLE OF TRANSFORMATION--
BUT YOU MUST NOT FORGET--THE MACHINE!
WAIT! COME BACK!


SLOWLY, SILENTLY, THE HUGE, LUMBERING FIGURE LOOKS DOWN AT HIS FALLEN COMPANION--SEEKING SOME CLUE--SOME UNDERSTANDING--WHICH HIS CLOUDED BRAIN CAN NEVER GIVE HIM!
AND, ALL THE WHILE, THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE--TICKS ON--
TO BE HULKINUED


NO ONE ORDERS HULK!
NO ONE!
20

THE INCREDIBLE HULK
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
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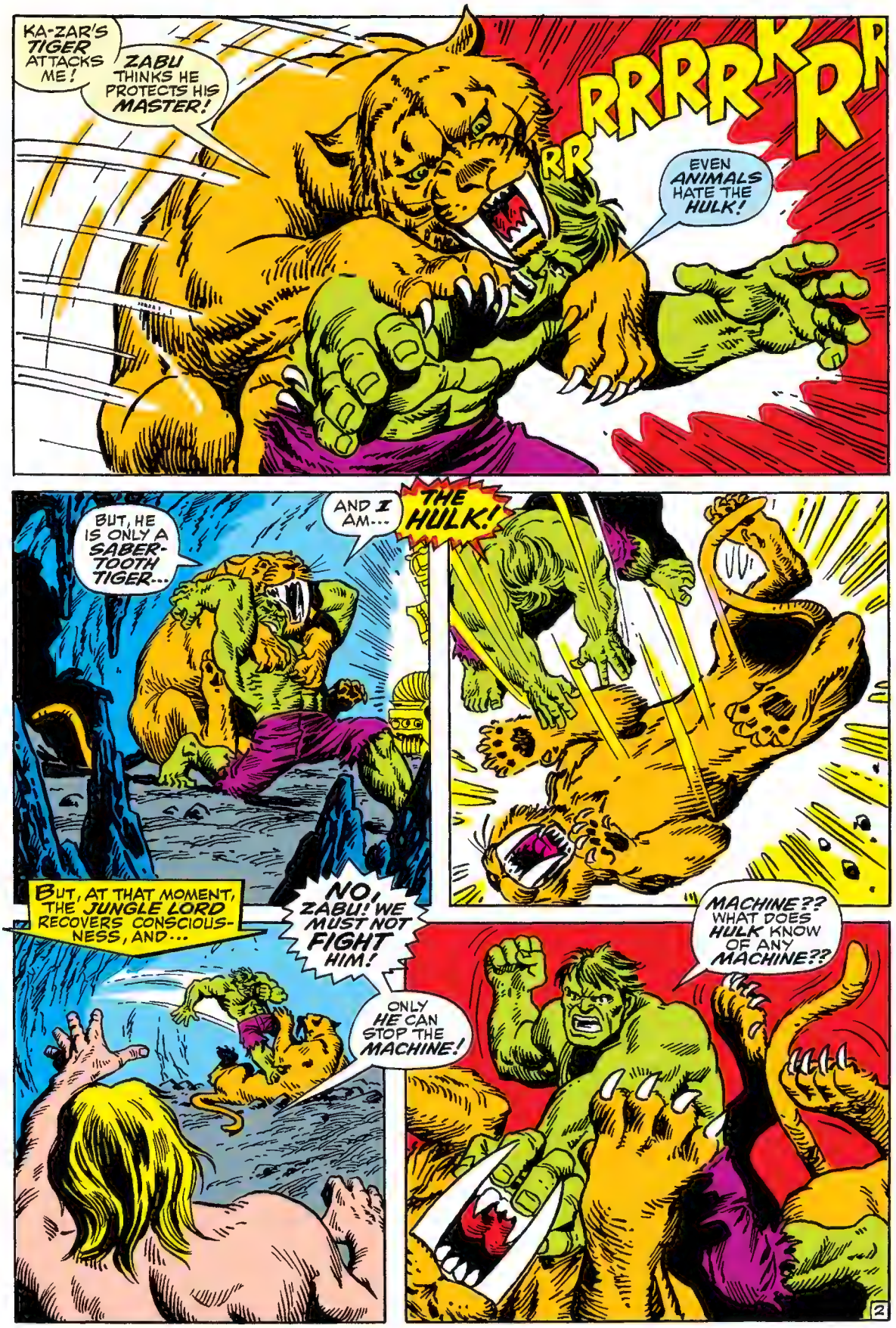
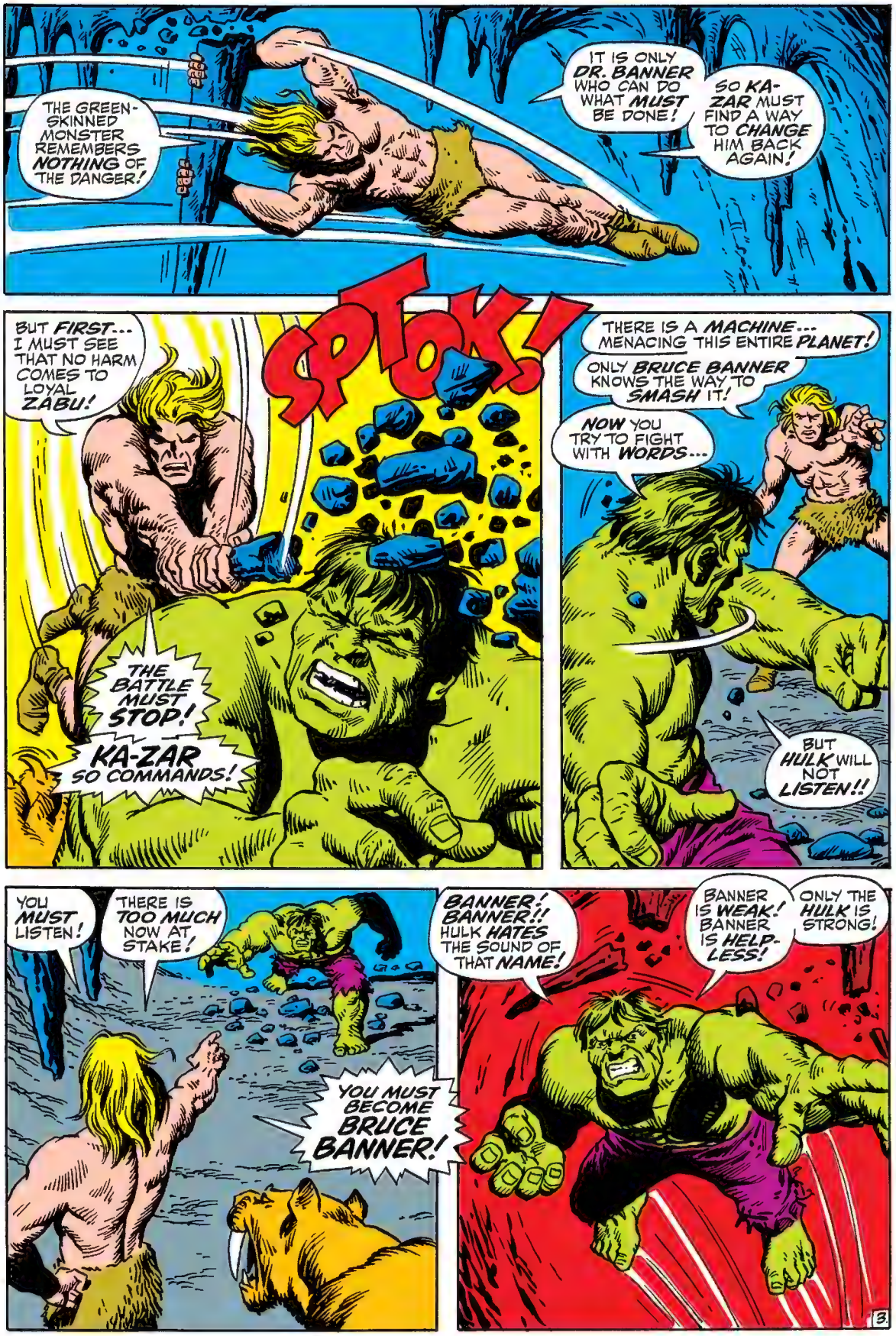
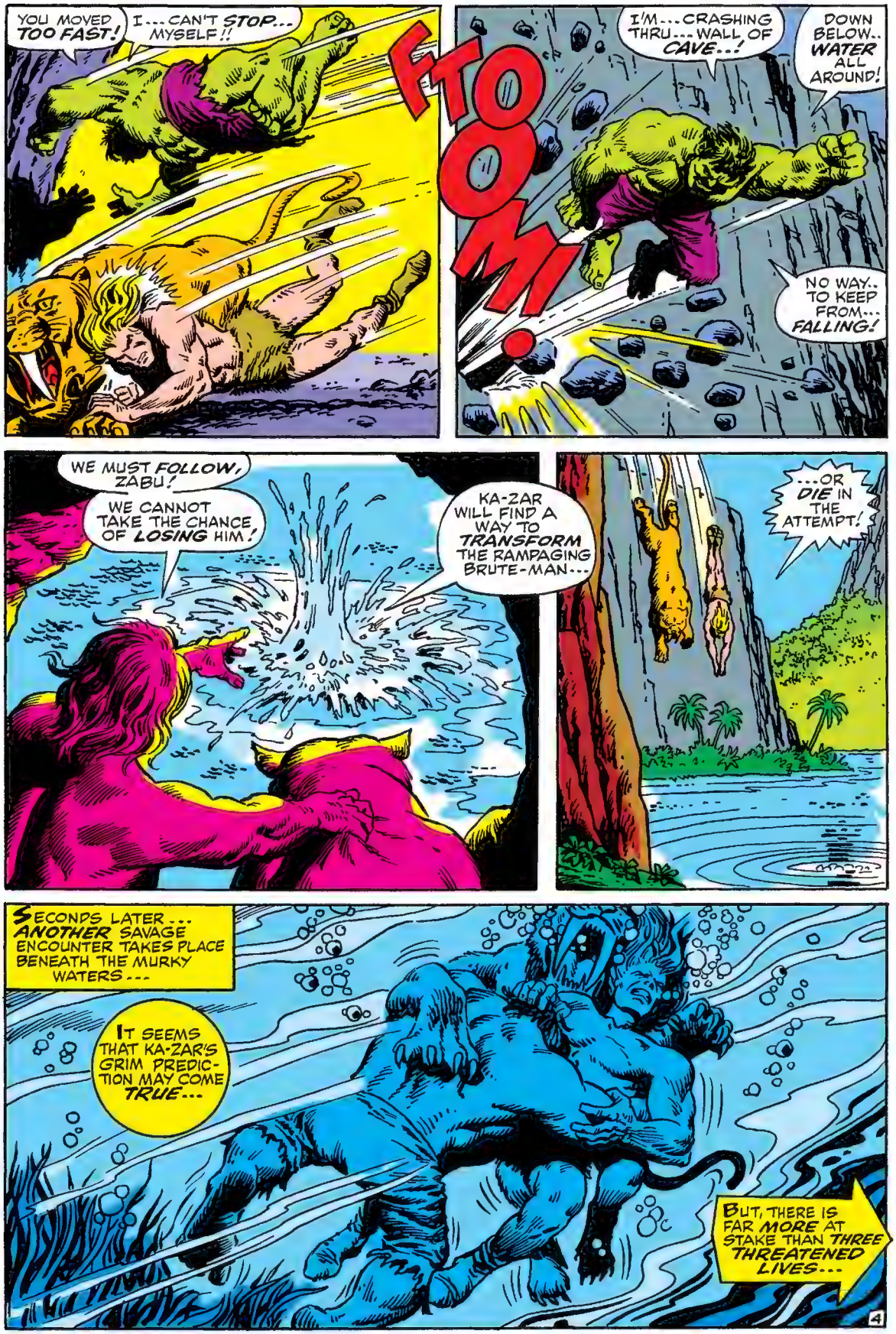
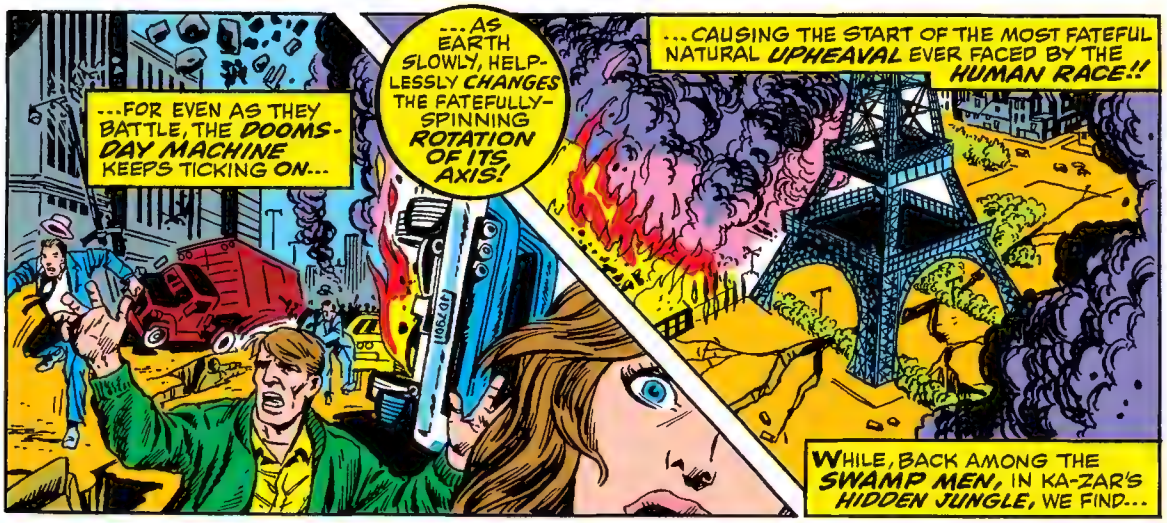
110 DEC
UMBU THE UNLIVING!
TRIMPE & SEVERIN

THE INCREDIBLE HULK!™
UMBU, THE UNLIVING!
HULK DIDN'T MEAN TO HURT KA-ZAR! WHY DID JUNGLE MAN TRY TO STOP ME?
NO ONE MUST STOP THE HULK!
SCRIPT AND EDITING: STAN (THE MAN) LEE
PENCILLING: HAPPY HERBY TRIMPE
INKS: JOHN SEVERIN
LETTERING: SAM ROSEN
JUST AS BRUCE BANNER WAS ABOUT TO DEACTIVATE THE DEADLY DOOMSDAY MACHINE WHICH THREATENS TO DESTROY ALL OF EARTH, HE CHANGED BACK TO THE LUMBERING HULK! EVEN MIGHTY KA-ZAR WAS POWERLESS AGAINST HIM! AND NOW---

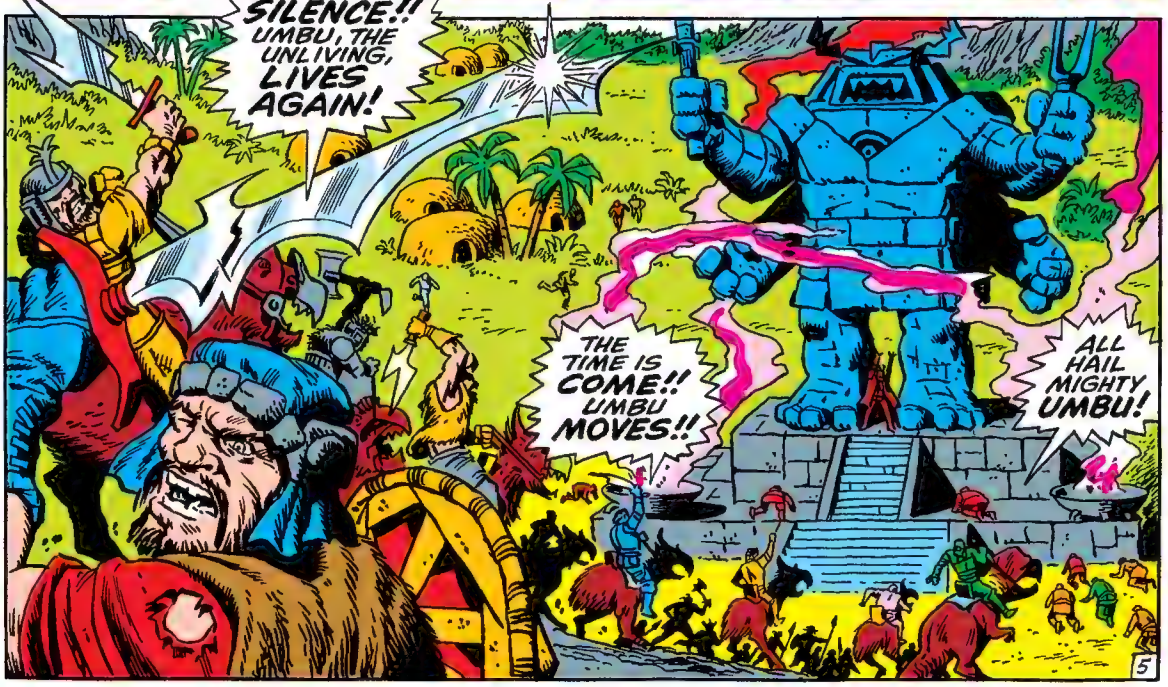

KA-ZAR'S TIGER ATTACKS ME!
ZABU THINKS HE PROTECTS HIS MASTER!
RRRRRRR
EVEN ANIMALS HATE THE HULK!
BUT, HE IS ONLY A SABER-TOOTH TIGER...
AND I AM...
THE HULK!
BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, THE JUNGLE LORD RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS, AND...
NO, ZABU! WE MUST NOT FIGHT HIM!
ONLY HE CAN STOP THE MACHINE!
MACHINE?? WHAT DOES HULK KNOW OF ANY MACHINE??
2

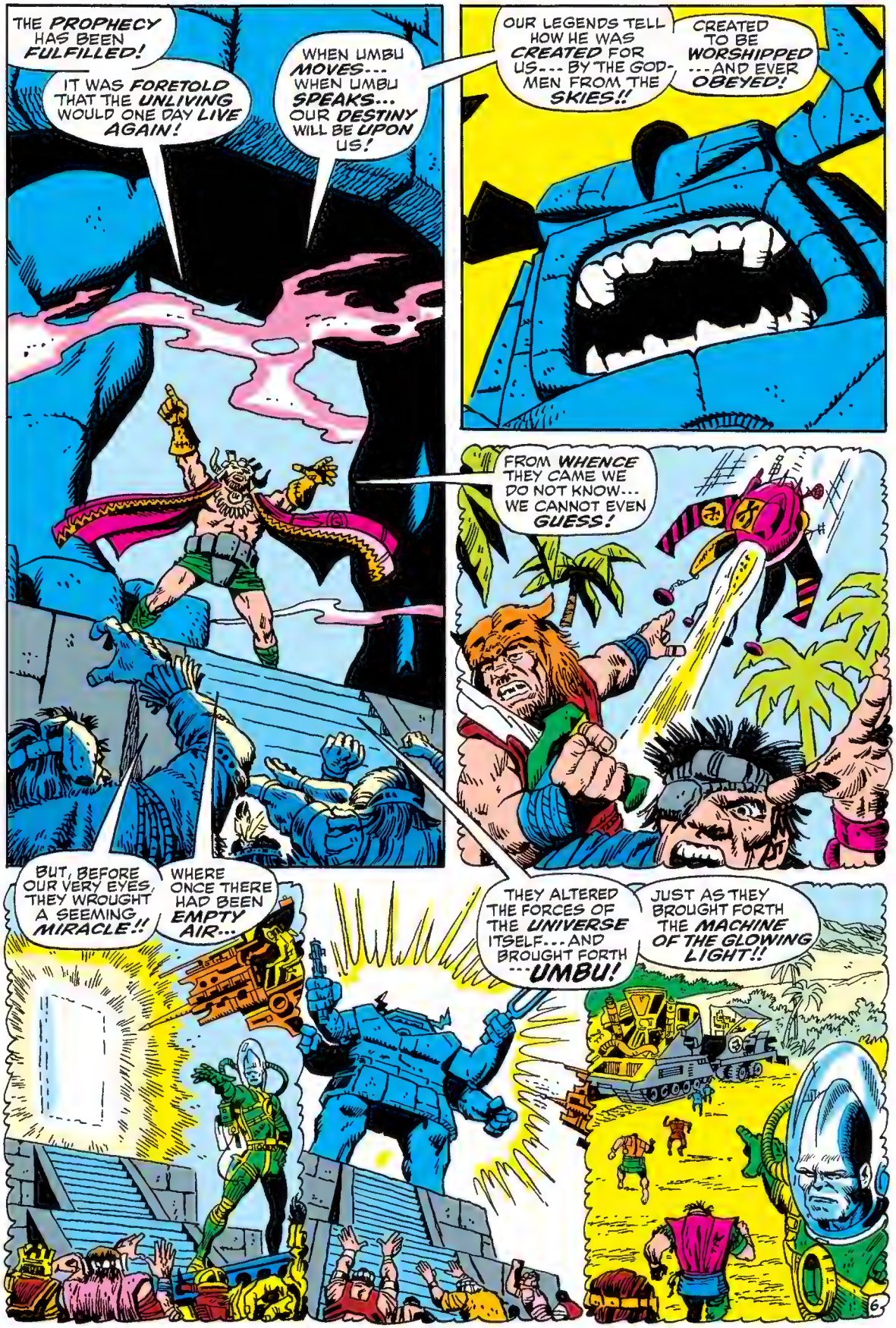

THE GREEN-SKINNED MONSTER REMEMBERS NOTHING OF THE DANGER!
IT IS ONLY DR. BANNER WHO CAN DO WHAT MUST BE DONE!
SO KA-ZAR MUST FIND A WAY TO CHANGE HIM BACK AGAIN!
BUT FIRST... I MUST SEE THAT NO HARM COMES TO LOYAL ZABU!
SPTOK!
THE BATTLE MUST STOP!
KA-ZAR SO COMMANDS!
THERE IS A MACHINE... MENACING THIS ENTIRE PLANET!
ONLY BRUCE BANNER KNOWS THE WAY TO SMASH IT!
NOW YOU TRY TO FIGHT WITH WORDS...
BUT HULK WILL NOT LISTEN!!
YOU MUST LISTEN!
THERE IS TOO MUCH NOW AT STAKE!
YOU MUST BECOME BRUCE BANNER!
BANNER! BANNER!! HULK HATES THE SOUND OF THAT NAME!
BANNER IS WEAK! BANNER IS HELP-LESS!
ONLY THE HULK IS STRONG!
3


YOU MOVED TOO FAST!
I... CAN'T STOP... MYSELF!!
FTOOM!
I'M... CRASHING THRU... WALL OF CAVE...!
DOWN BELOW.. WATER ALL AROUND!
NO WAY.. TO KEEP FROM... FALLING!
WE MUST FOLLOW, ZABU!
WE CANNOT TAKE THE CHANCE OF LOSING HIM!
KA-ZAR WILL FIND A WAY TO TRANSFORM THE RAMPAGING BRUTE-MAN...
...OR DIE IN THE ATTEMPT!
SECONDS LATER... ANOTHER SAVAGE ENCOUNTER TAKES PLACE BENEATH THE MURKY WATERS...
IT SEEMS THAT KA-ZAR'S GRIM PREDICTION MAY COME TRUE...
BUT, THERE IS FAR MORE AT STAKE THAN THREE THREATENED LIVES...
4

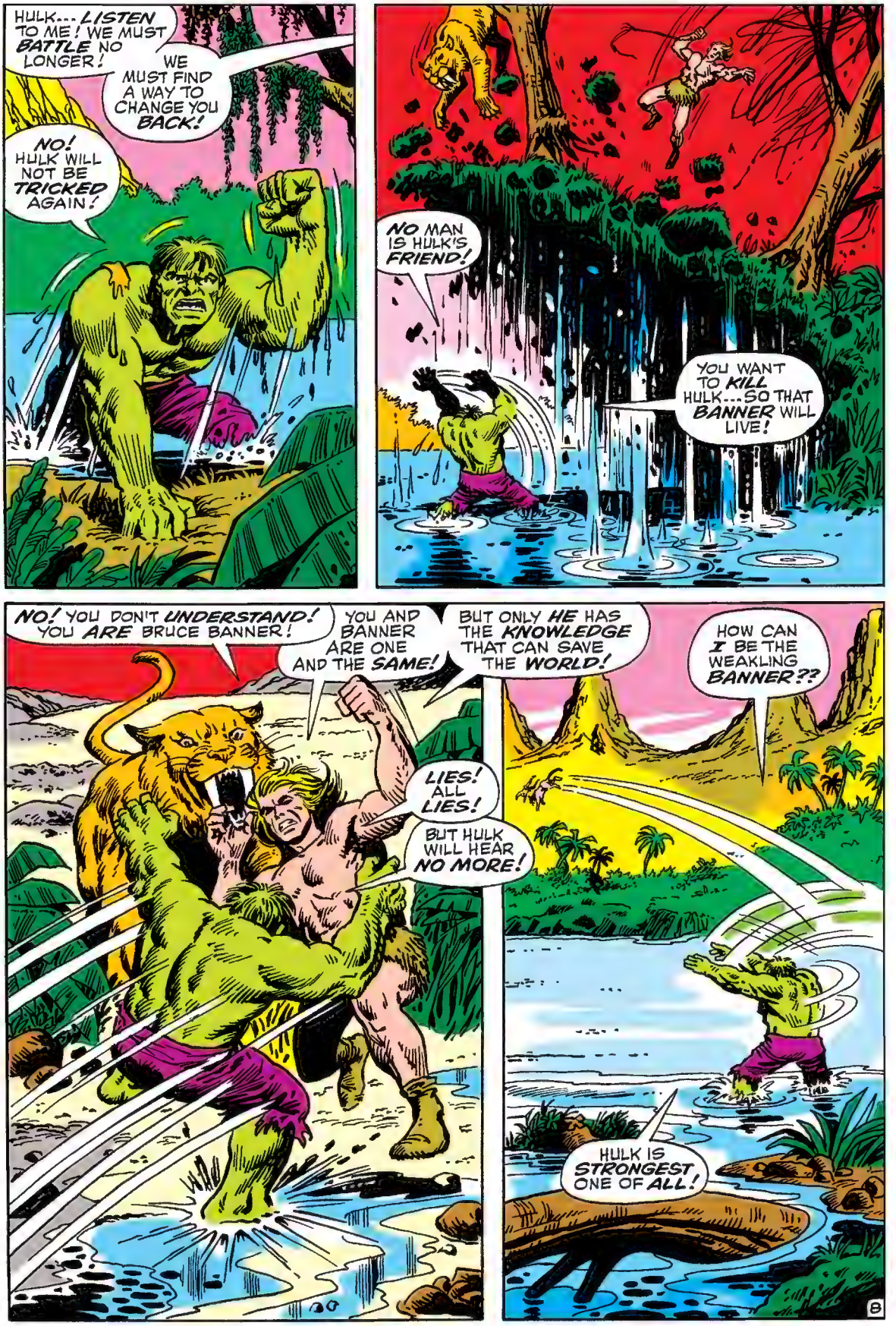

...FOR EVEN AS THEY BATTLE, THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE KEEPS TICKING ON...
...AS EARTH SLOWLY, HELPLESSLY CHANGES THE FATEFULLY-SPINNING ROTATION OF ITS AXIS!
...CAUSING THE START OF THE MOST FATEFUL NATURAL UPHEAVAL EVER FACED BY THE HUMAN RACE!!
WHILE, BACK AMONG THE SWAMP MEN, IN KA-ZAR'S HIDDEN JUNGLE, WE FIND...

BEHOLD!! OUR RAIDING PARTY RETURNS!
BUT, THEY HAVE NOT CAPTURED A HUMAN SACRIFICE!
THE WRATHFUL UMBU WILL BE DISPLEASED!
ALL-POWERFUL IS UMBU!
NONE BUT UMBU CAN DESTROY THE ACCURSED ENEMY!

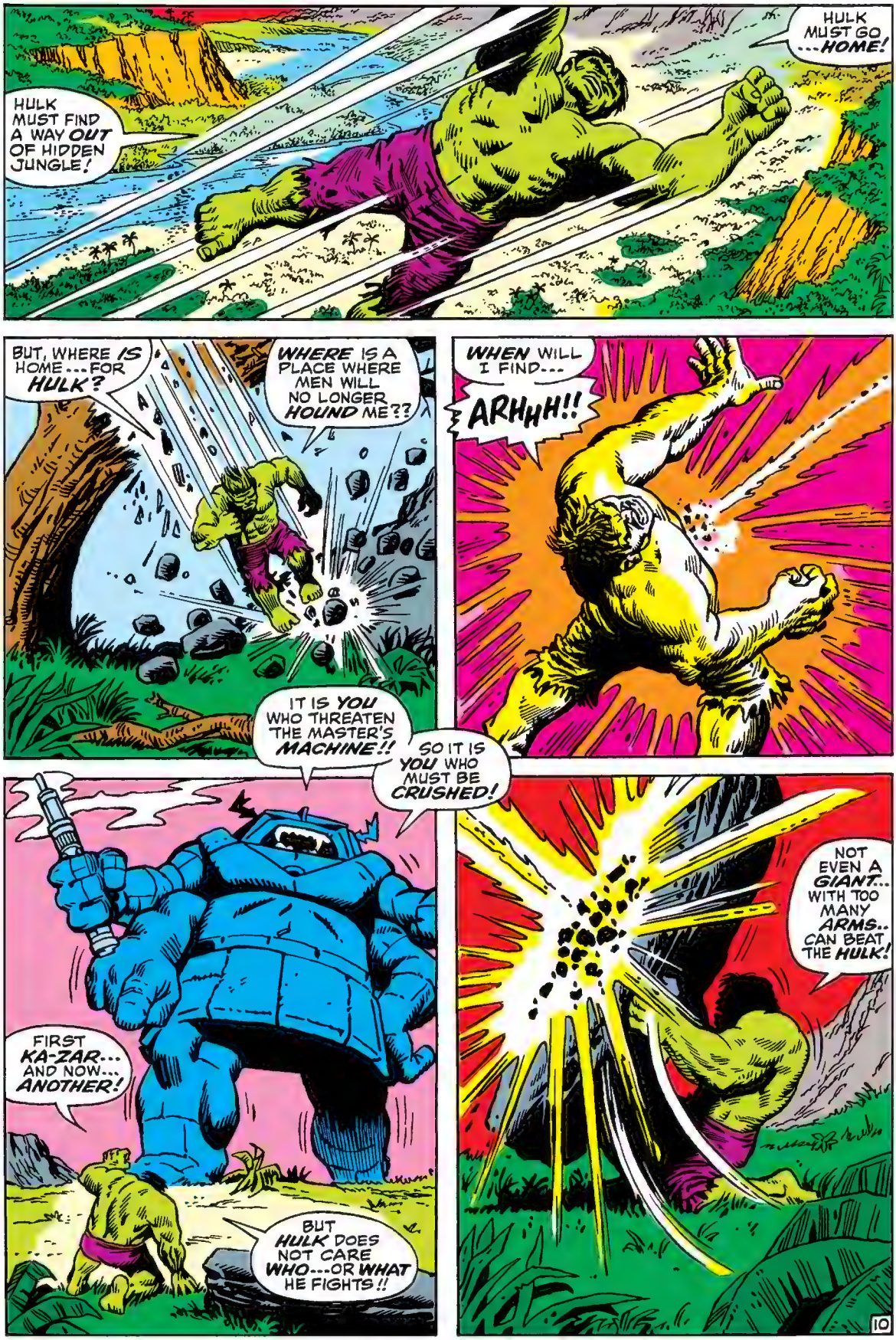

SILENCE!! UMBU, THE UNLIVING, LIVES AGAIN!
THE TIME IS COME!! UMBU MOVES!!
ALL HAIL MIGHTY UMBU!


THE PROPHECY HAS BEEN FULFILLED!
IT WAS FORETOLD THAT THE UNLIVING WOULD ONE DAY LIVE AGAIN!
WHEN UMBU MOVES... WHEN UMBU SPEAKS... OUR DESTINY WILL BE UPON US!
OUR LEGENDS TELL HOW HE WAS CREATED FOR US--- BY THE GOD-MEN FROM THE SKIES!!
CREATED TO BE WORSHIPPED ---AND EVER OBEYED!
FROM WHENCE THEY CAME WE DO NOT KNOW... WE CANNOT EVEN GUESS!
BUT, BEFORE OUR VERY EYES, THEY WROUGHT A SEEMING MIRACLE!!
WHERE ONCE THERE HAD BEEN EMPTY AIR...
THEY ALTERED THE FORCES OF THE UNIVERSE ITSELF---AND BROUGHT FORTH ---UMBU!
JUST AS THEY BROUGHT FORTH THE MACHINE OF THE GLOWING LIGHT!!
6

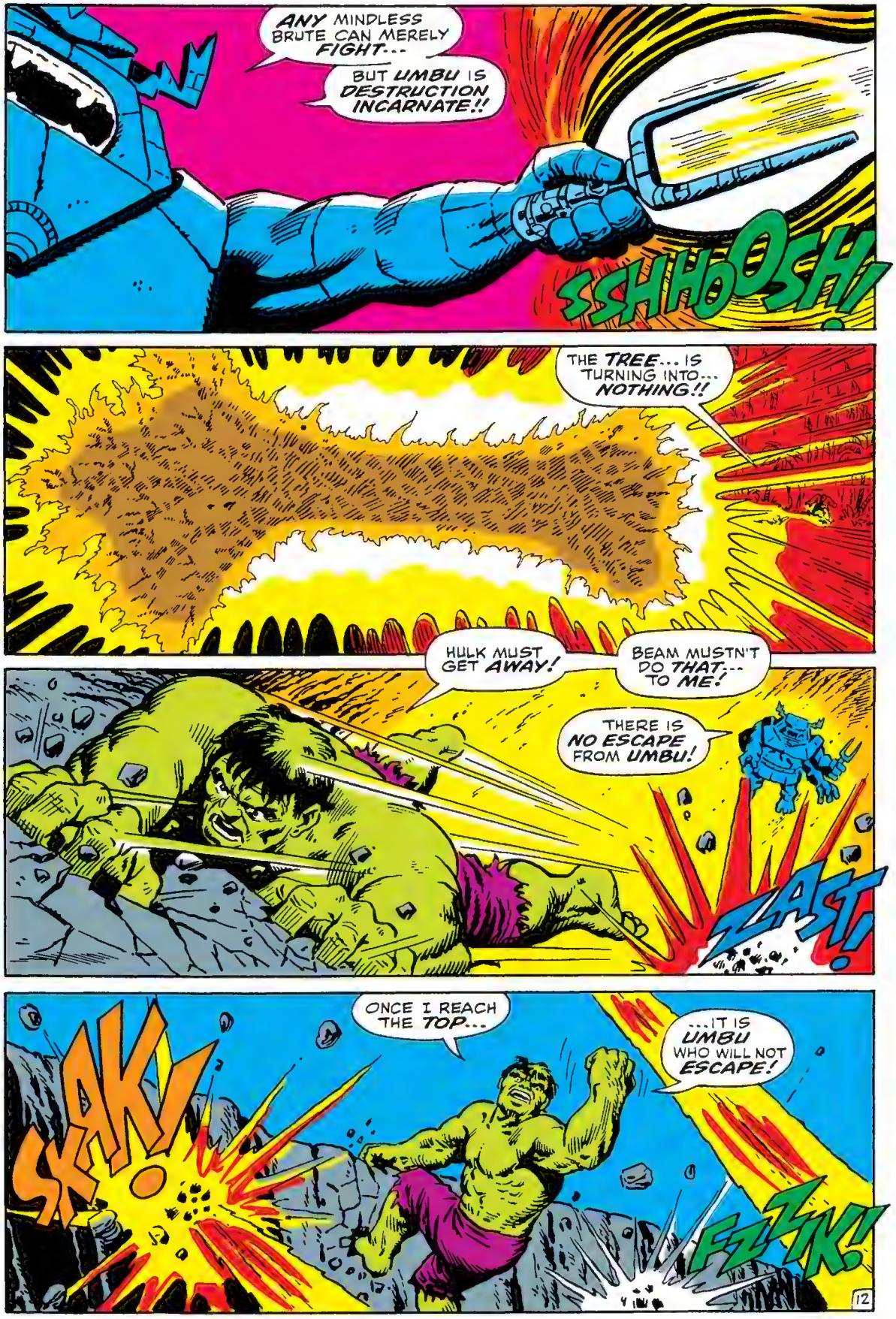
"AND THEN THEY SPOKE THEIR FINAL WORDS..."
NONE MAY TAMPER WITH THE GLOWING MACHINE!
WE NOW DEPART... BUT UMBU SHALL REMAIN!
IF THE MACHINE BE THREATENED ...THEN SHALL UMBU LIVE!
AND SO, IT HAS COME TO PASS!
GO FORTH, MIGHTY UMBU ...AND DESTROY OUR FOES!
BUT, SPEAKING OF FOES, LET'S NOT FORGET ABOUT THESE, AS THEY BATTLE IN SILENCE BENEATH THE DEEP...
ZABU AND I ARE SAFE ONCE MORE...
BUT THE HULK FOLLOWS FAST!
--AND WE DARE NOT FLEE HIM!
--NOT WHILE THE MACHINE STILL GLOWS!
7

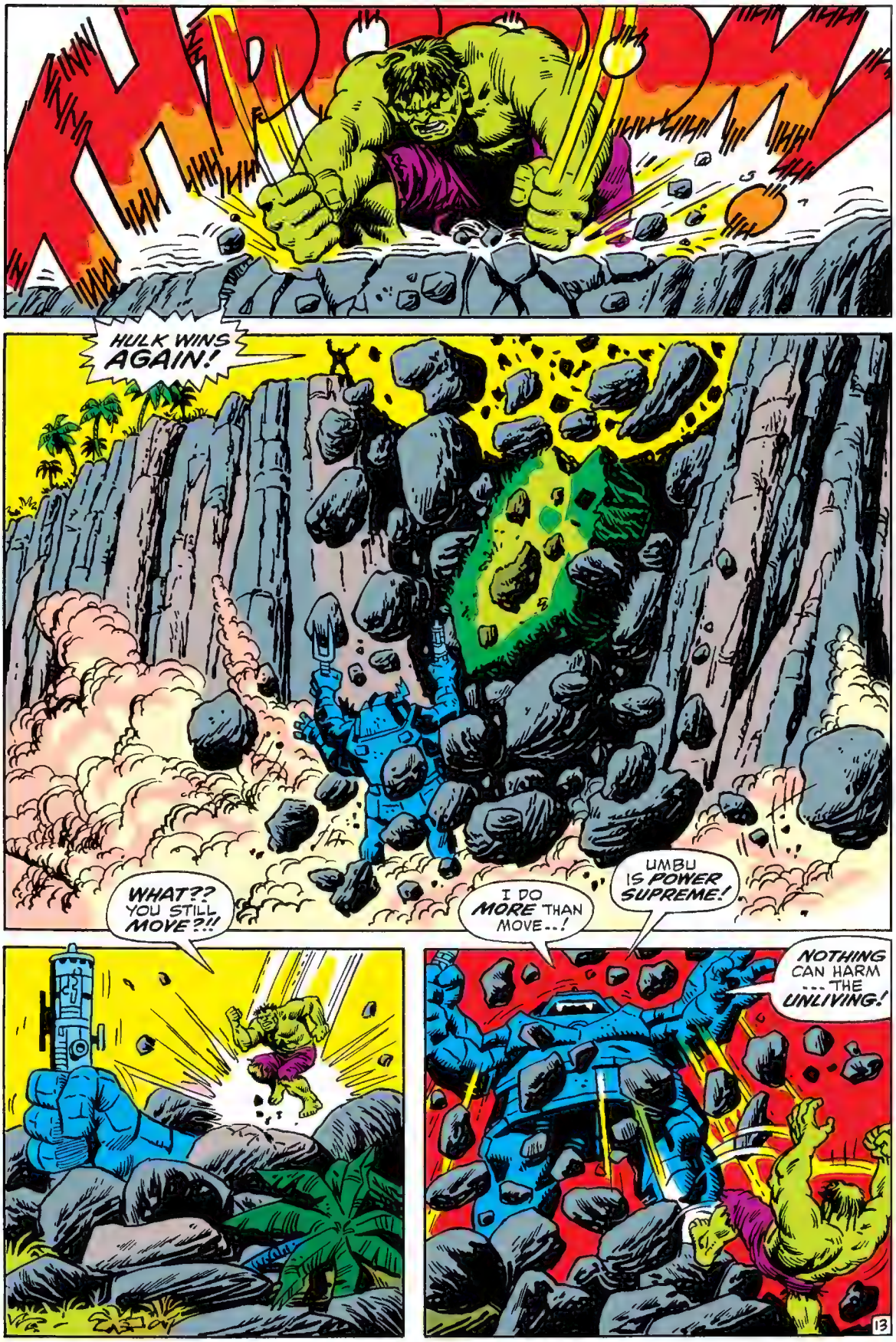

HULK... LISTEN TO ME! WE MUST BATTLE NO LONGER!
WE MUST FIND A WAY TO CHANGE YOU BACK!
NO! HULK WILL NOT BE TRICKED AGAIN!
NO MAN IS HULK'S FRIEND!
YOU WANT TO KILL HULK... SO THAT BANNER WILL LIVE!
NO! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! YOU ARE BRUCE BANNER!
YOU AND BANNER ARE ONE AND THE SAME!
BUT ONLY HE HAS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT CAN SAVE THE WORLD!
LIES! ALL LIES!
BUT HULK WILL HEAR NO MORE!
HOW CAN I BE THE WEAKLING BANNER??
HULK IS STRONGEST ONE OF ALL!
8

KA-ZAR HAS FAILED!!
NONE CAN SAVE US NOW--!
AND, AT THAT VERY MOMENT...
HOLD!!
A FIGURE HAS FALLEN... BELOW!!
NOTHING CAN ESCAPE THE NOTICE OF UMBU!
LET THE PROCESSION HALT!
UMBU HAS SPOKEN! WE MUST GIVE EAR!
ON... TO THE VALLEY!
PRAISE BE TO UMBU!
WE HAVE FOUND OUR SACRIFICE!
RETURN TO YOUR VILLAGE!
PREPARE THE VICTIM... UPON THE ALTAR OF DEATH!
WHERE UMBU NOW GOES... HE GOES ALONE!
AND SO, THE CAPTIVE JUNGLE LORD IS CARRIED BACK...
... BACK TO A FEARSOME FATE AT THE HANDS OF THE SWAMP MEN!
BUT... WHAT OF THE INCREDIBLE HULK...?
9.

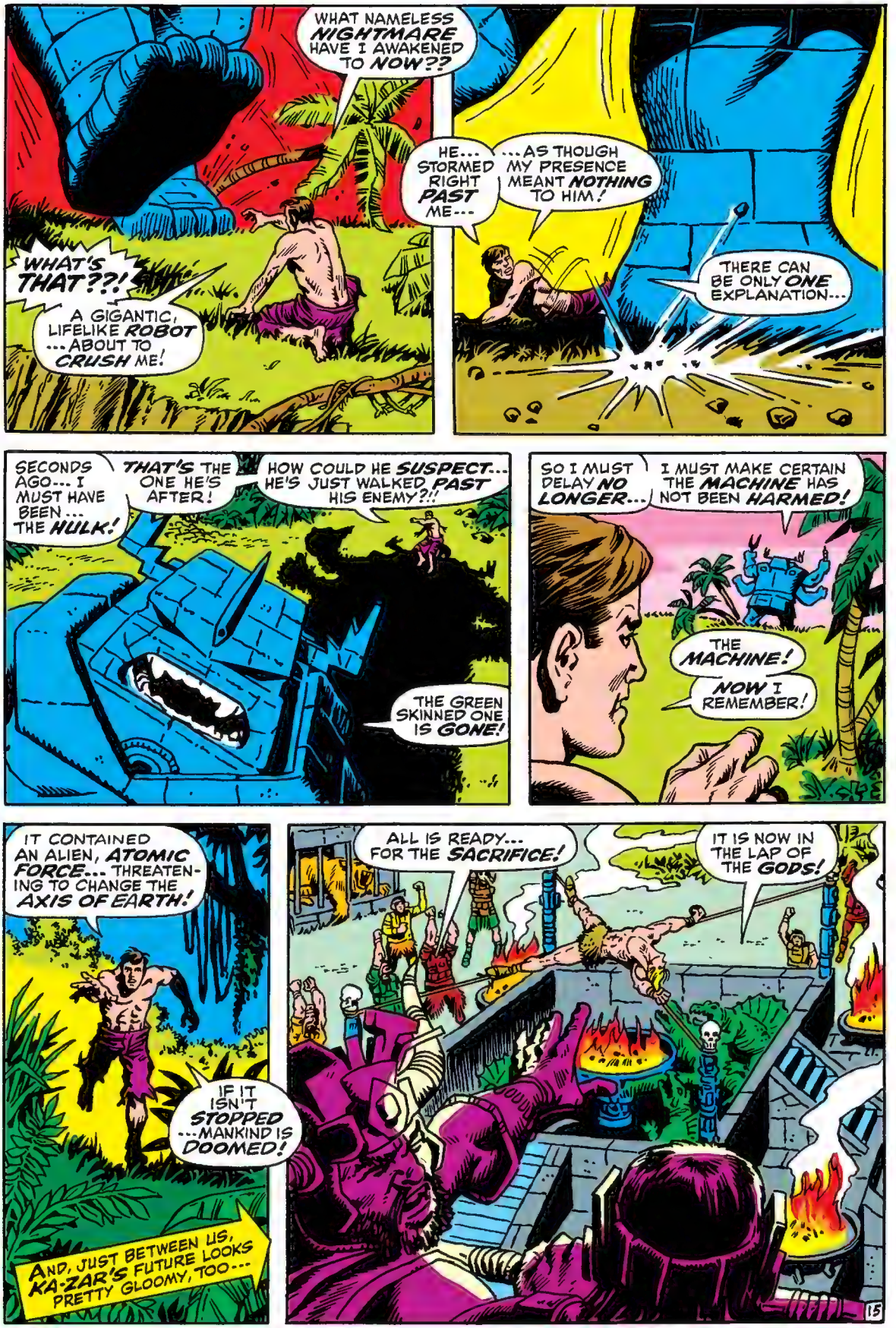

HULK MUST FIND A WAY OUT OF HIDDEN JUNGLE!
HULK MUST GO ---HOME!
BUT, WHERE IS HOME---FOR HULK?
WHERE IS A PLACE WHERE MEN WILL NO LONGER HOUND ME??
WHEN WILL I FIND---
ARHHH!!
IT IS YOU WHO THREATEN THE MASTER'S MACHINE!!
SO IT IS YOU WHO MUST BE CRUSHED!
FIRST KA-ZAR... AND NOW... ANOTHER!
BUT HULK DOES NOT CARE WHO---OR WHAT HE FIGHTS!!
NOT EVEN A GIANT... WITH TOO MANY ARMS.. CAN BEAT THE HULK!
10

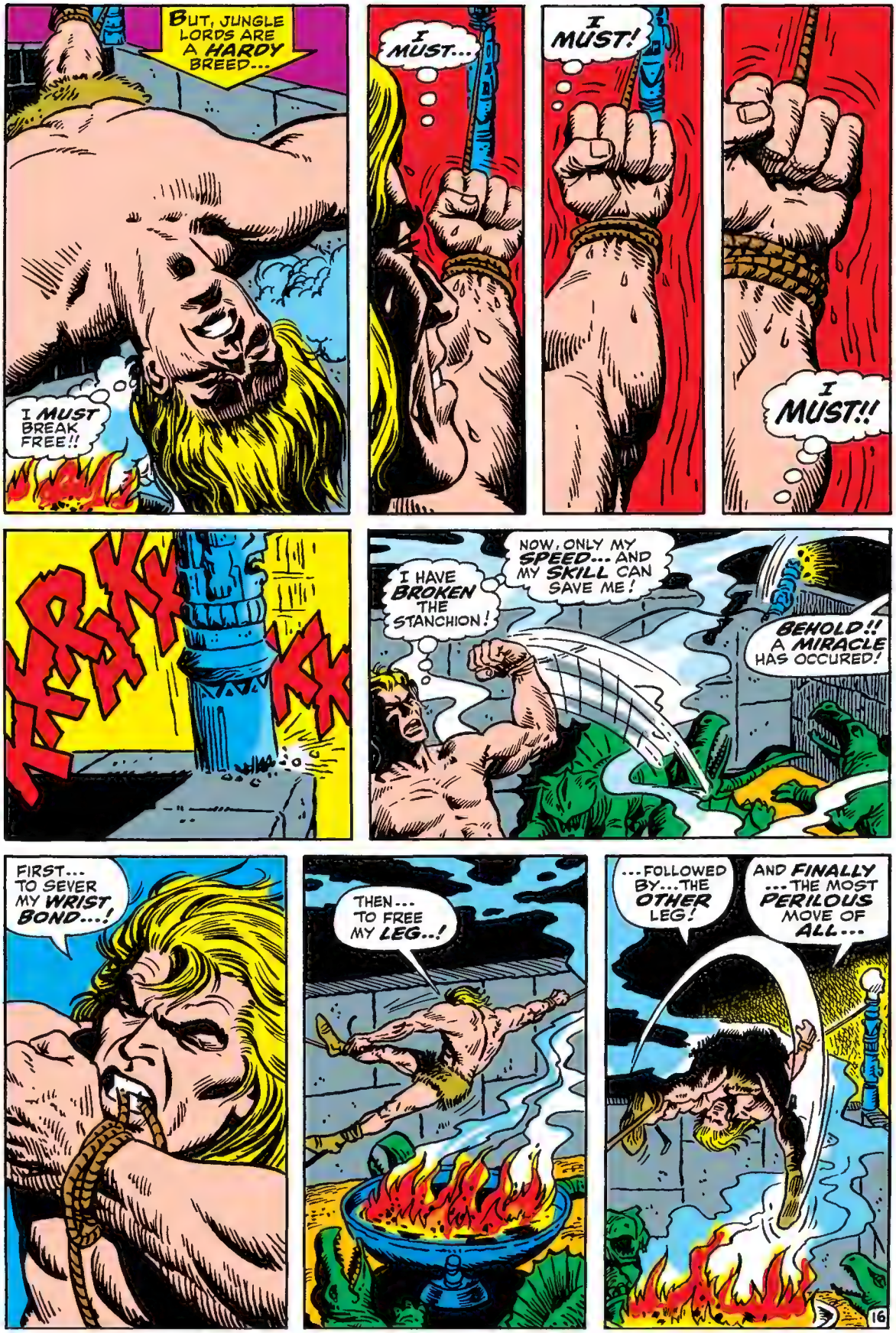
HAH!! HULK IS SO STRONG--- HE CAN THROW HEAVY BOULDER WITH FORCE OF A ROCKET!!
NOW GIANT MUST FALL!
UMBU CANNOT FALL!
THOSE WHO CREATED ME WERE FAR TOO WISE!
SEE HOW QUICKLY MY REPAIR CIRCUITS CAN FUNCTION!
AND NOW --- UMBU WILL STRIKE AGAIN!
KA-K
THIS TIME HULK WAS READY..!
YOU THINK A MERE TREE CAN STOP UMBU??
HULK DOESN'T THINK--!
NOT WHEN I CAN FIGHT!!
11.


ANY MINDLESS BRUTE CAN MERELY FIGHT...
BUT UMBU IS DESTRUCTION INCARNATE!!
SSHHOOSH!
THE TREE... IS TURNING INTO... NOTHING!!
HULK MUST GET AWAY!
BEAM MUSTN'T DO THAT... TO ME!
THERE IS NO ESCAPE FROM UMBU!
ZAST!
ONCE I REACH THE TOP...
...IT IS UMBU WHO WILL NOT ESCAPE!
SKA!
FZZIK!


KRAKOW!
HULK WINS AGAIN!
WHAT?? YOU STILL MOVE?!!
I DO MORE THAN MOVE..!
UMBU IS POWER SUPREME!
NOTHING CAN HARM ---THE UNLIVING!

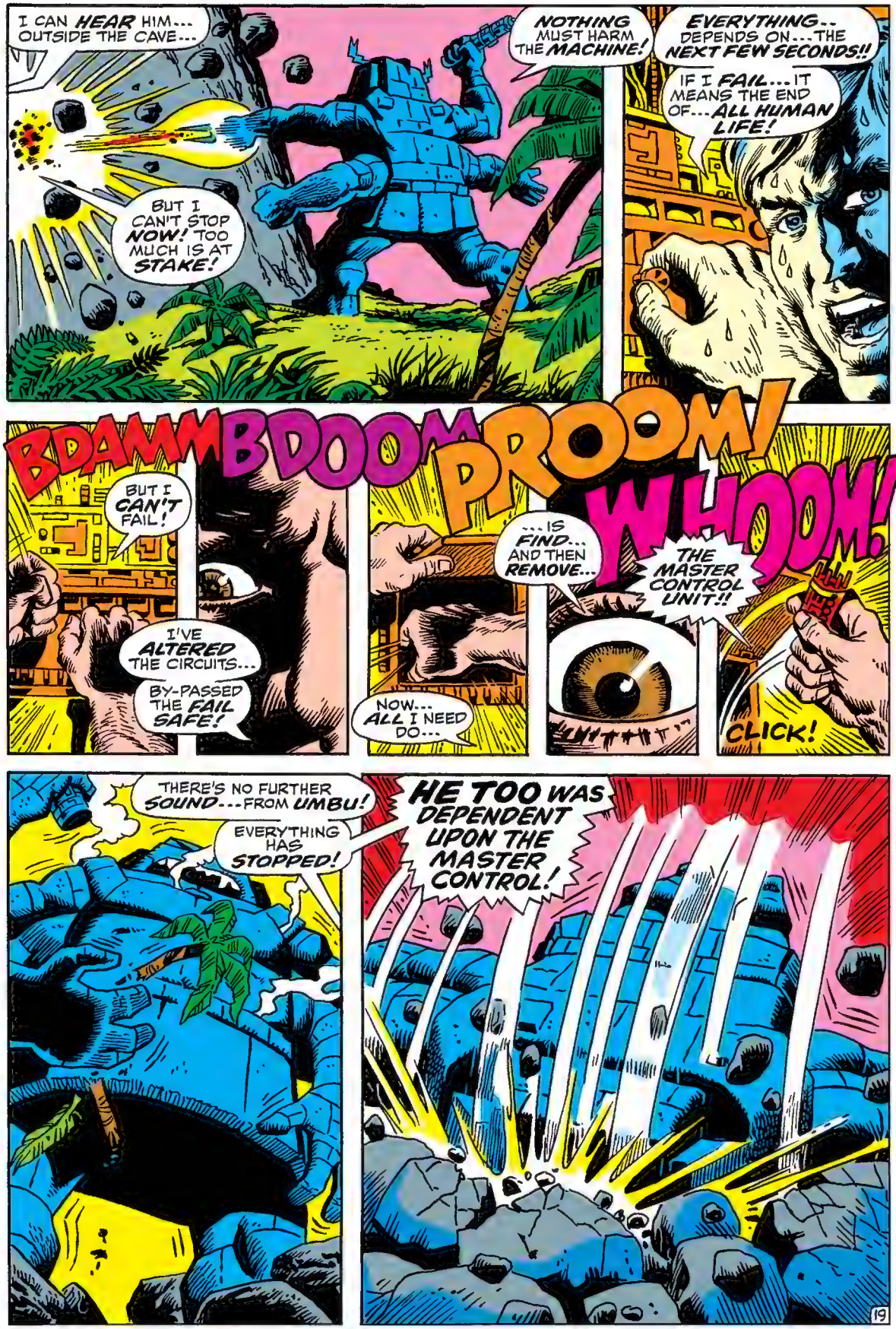
--AND, NOTHING CAN SAVE HIM WHOM UMBU WOULD DESTROY!
HULK'S LEGS CAN SAVE HIM!
NEVER!
NO MATTER HOW HIGH--- OR HOW FAST--- YOU MAY LEAP---
---YOU CANNOT ESCAPE MY POTENT VAPOR ATTACK!
GAS!! THE ONLY THING--- THAT CAN.. WEAKEN--- THE HULK--!
THE ONLY THING---
THAT ALL OF MY STRENGTH...
---CANNOT ---FIGHT--!
BUT SUDDENLY, THE STRANGE, SWIRLING MISTS BEGIN TO HAVE AN UNEXPECTED EFFECT UPON THE FALLEN TITAN---
MY HEAD--- STARTING TO THROB...
EVERYTHING ACHES...
--BRAIN DIZZY--- FEELING WEAK!
IT---IT CAN ONLY MEAN ---ONE THING---
I'M--- CHANGING--- AGAIN!!


WHAT NAMELESS NIGHTMARE HAVE I AWAKENED TO NOW??
WHAT'S THAT??!
A GIGANTIC, LIFELIKE ROBOT ...ABOUT TO CRUSH ME!
HE... STORMED RIGHT PAST ME---
...AS THOUGH MY PRESENCE MEANT NOTHING TO HIM!
THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE EXPLANATION...
SECONDS AGO... I MUST HAVE BEEN... THE HULK!
THAT'S THE ONE HE'S AFTER!
HOW COULD HE SUSPECT... HE'S JUST WALKED PAST HIS ENEMY?!!
THE GREEN SKINNED ONE IS GONE!
SO I MUST DELAY NO LONGER...
I MUST MAKE CERTAIN THE MACHINE HAS NOT BEEN HARMED!
THE MACHINE!
NOW I REMEMBER!
IT CONTAINED AN ALIEN, ATOMIC FORCE... THREATENING TO CHANGE THE AXIS OF EARTH!
IF IT ISN'T STOPPED ...MANKIND IS DOOMED!
AND, JUST BETWEEN US, KA-ZAR'S FUTURE LOOKS PRETTY GLOOMY, TOO...
ALL IS READY... FOR THE SACRIFICE!
IT IS NOW IN THE LAP OF THE GODS!
15


BUT, JUNGLE LORDS ARE A HARDY BREED...
I MUST BREAK FREE!!
I MUST...
I MUST!
I MUST!!
KRAK
KK
I HAVE BROKEN THE STANCHION!
NOW, ONLY MY SPEED... AND MY SKILL CAN SAVE ME!
BEHOLD!! A MIRACLE HAS OCCURED!
FIRST... TO SEVER MY WRIST BOND...!
THEN... TO FREE MY LEG..!
...FOLLOWED BY...THE OTHER LEG!
AND FINALLY ...THE MOST PERILOUS MOVE OF ALL...
16

I'LL HAVE ONLY ONE CHANCE-- TO TOPPLE THE VAT OF OIL INTO THE FLAMES...
AND THEN... WITHOUT LOSING MY MOMENTUM...
...TO SWING MYSELF TO SAFETY... BEFORE THE INFERNO ENVELOPS ME!!
KA-ZAR IS FREE!
STOP HIM... IN THE NAME OF UMBU!
IF THE JUNGLE LORD LIVES... OUR LIVES WILL BE FORFEIT!
KA-ZAR MUST DIE!
YOU ARE FREE, BRAVE ZABU!
NOW LET US FIGHT ...AS NEVER BEFORE!
WE ARE MANY.. AND THEY ARE TWO!!
SURROUND THEM!
BUT, HOW DO YOU SURROUND TWO LIVING CYCLONES..??
STOP THEM! STOP THEM!
IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIVES!
17.

IT IS USELESS!
WE DARE NOT BE THWARTED!
THEY FIGHT LIKE DEMONS!
THINK! THINK OF THE VENGEANCE OF UMBU!
IT CANNOT COMPARE... TO THE WRATH OF KA-ZAR!
FOOLS!! THE FIGHT I FIGHT IS YOURS AS WELL!!
THE DEVIL MACHINE WILL DOOM US ALL!
BUT THE TIME FOR TALK IS LONG SINCE PAST!
TO MY SIDE, ZABU!
THE VICTORY IS OURS!
WHILE, WITHIN THE FATEFUL CAVE...
I'VE DECIPHERED THE ALIEN CIRCUITS AT LAST!
NOW, ALL I NEED IS A FEW MORE MINUTES ...TO DO WHAT MUST BE DONE!
...TO ALTER THE CIRCUITRY... AND RESTORE OUR PLANET TO ITS PROPER AXIS!
BUT TIME, IT SEEMS, HAS JUST RUN OUT...
...FOR BRUCE BANNER... AND, PERHAPS... THE REMAINDER OF THE HAPLESS HUMAN RACE!
THE GIANT ROBOT... THAT CALLS ITSELF UMBU...
HE'S FOUND ME AGAIN!

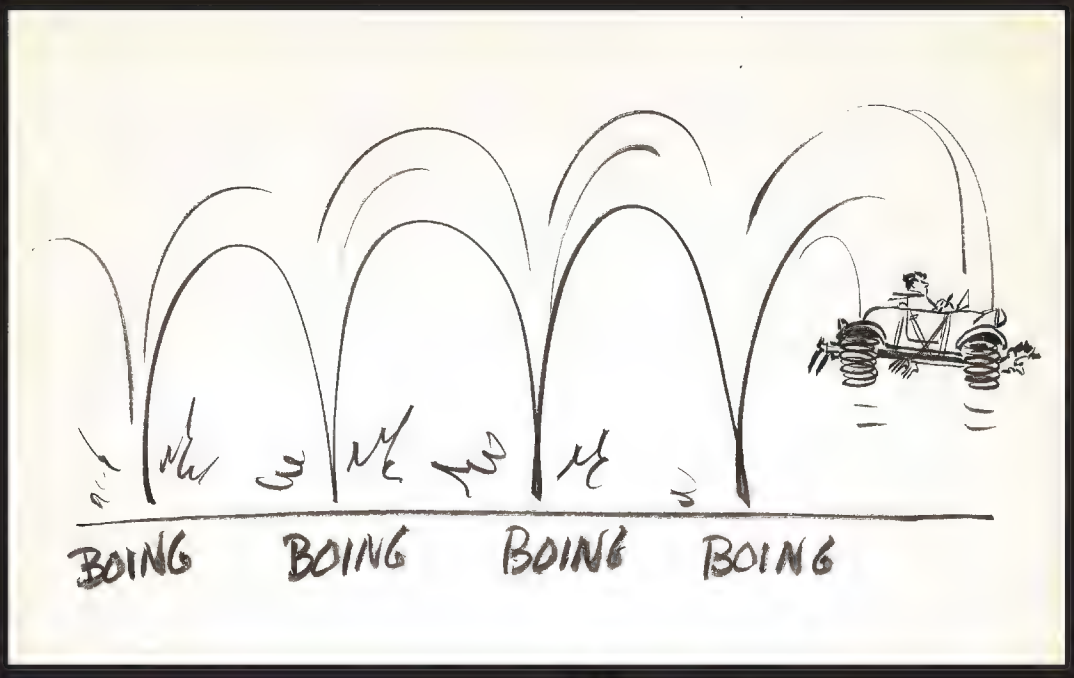

I CAN HEAR HIM... OUTSIDE THE CAVE...
BUT I CAN'T STOP NOW! TOO MUCH IS AT STAKE!
NOTHING MUST HARM THE MACHINE!
EVERYTHING... DEPENDS ON... THE NEXT FEW SECONDS!!
IF I FAIL... IT MEANS THE END OF... ALL HUMAN LIFE!
BDAMMB
DOOM
PROOM!
WHOOM!
BUT I CAN'T FAIL!
I'VE ALTERED THE CIRCUITS...
BY-PASSED THE FAIL SAFE!
NOW... ALL I NEED DO...
...IS FIND... AND THEN REMOVE...
THE MASTER CONTROL UNIT!!
CLICK!
THERE'S NO FURTHER SOUND... FROM UMBU!
EVERYTHING HAS STOPPED!
HE TOO WAS DEPENDENT UPON THE MASTER CONTROL!

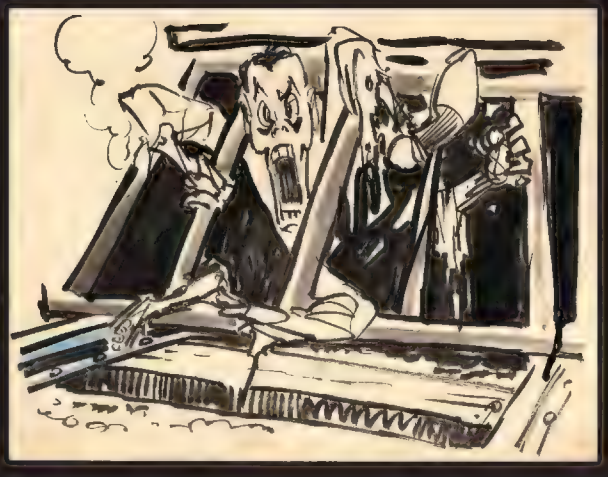
BUT THEN --- HIS FATEFUL TASK COMPLETED --- THE FRAIL BODY OF BRUCE BANNER SUDDENLY SAGS --- AND FALLS ---
FOR, IT HAD BEEN TOO LONG EXPOSED --- TO THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE'S DEADLY RADIATION!
WHILE NOT FAR AWAY...
UMBU HAS FALLEN!! WE ARE UNDONE!
OUR MASTER HAS FAILED US!
THAT CAN ONLY MEAN... BANNER HAS WON!
SOMEHOW..IN SOME STRANGE WAY...THE HULK CHANGED ONCE MORE!!
THE DANGER IS ENDED!
WE MUST FLEE THE WRATH OF THE GODS!
HOLD, MIGHTY ZABU!
THEY WILL TROUBLE US NO MORE!
RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR
NOW... BACK TO THE CAVE!
BUT, LITTLE DOES KA-ZAR... LITTLE DO YOU... SUSPECT THE STARTLING SHOCK THAT AWAITS YOU--!!
THE MACHINE IS NOW HARMLESS... BUT...
HIS HEART IS STOPPED! HE HAS NO PULSE!!
BRUCE BANNER IS DEAD!
HULKINUED!

SPECIAL BONUS:

Hey, making comics is serious business. And no one knows that fact better than Marvel satire artist supreme, Marie Severin. Apart from classin' up the joint, Marie kept her fellow Bullpenners on their toes with her wit and her artwork. The following illustrations by Severin come courtesy fellow *Hulk* artist and Bullpen alum, Herb Trimpe.

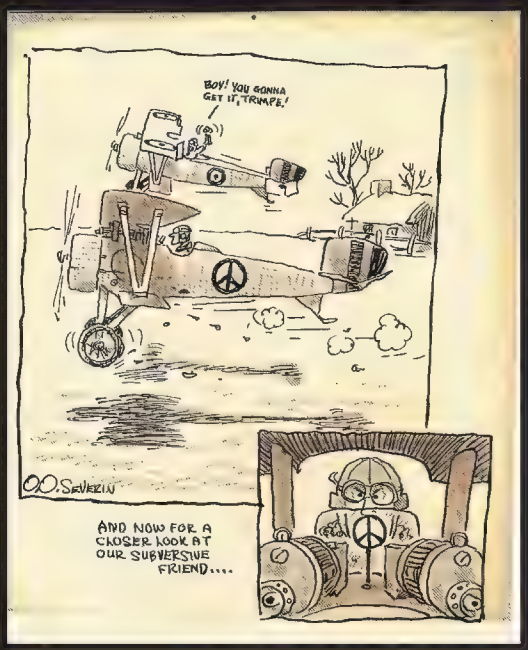
(Top) Herb Trimpe, man about the Bullpen. **(Bottom-left)** Moving offices, Marvel style, with Production Manager Big John Verpoorten shouldering his Bullpen buddies. **(Bottom-right)** Perhaps the only man who could out talk "The Man," Marie takes a jab at Herb for talking too much—and too loud. Something that Stan got on him about on more than one occasion.





(Top) Just as important as comics, engineering. More important than engineering, not discussing the possibility of a spring-driven car for too long around Marie. That's John Romita behind the driver's wheel with Herb strapped underneath. **(Left)** Marie's response to Herb's having a dream including her. **(Right)** What If...Herb Trimpe touched the paintings at the Met like he wants to? **(Bottom-Left)** Happy Herbie on his daily commute from Peekskill, New York

The boy's got bi-planes on the brain. **(Left)** After getting something his eye, Dr. Severin diagnoses Herb with a severve case of bug-sized WWI airplanes in the eye. Thankfully, not fatal. **(Bottom-left)** Learning that Herb used the peace symbol as the design for the Hulkbuster's base, John and Marie lampoon two birds with one gag. On the reverse side it reads "Give to H. Trimpe -- orders from the Godfather" **(Bottom-right)** All-American Boy. Drawn near the time of Herb's first penciling gig, *Marvel Super-Heroes* #16's "Phantom Eagle."



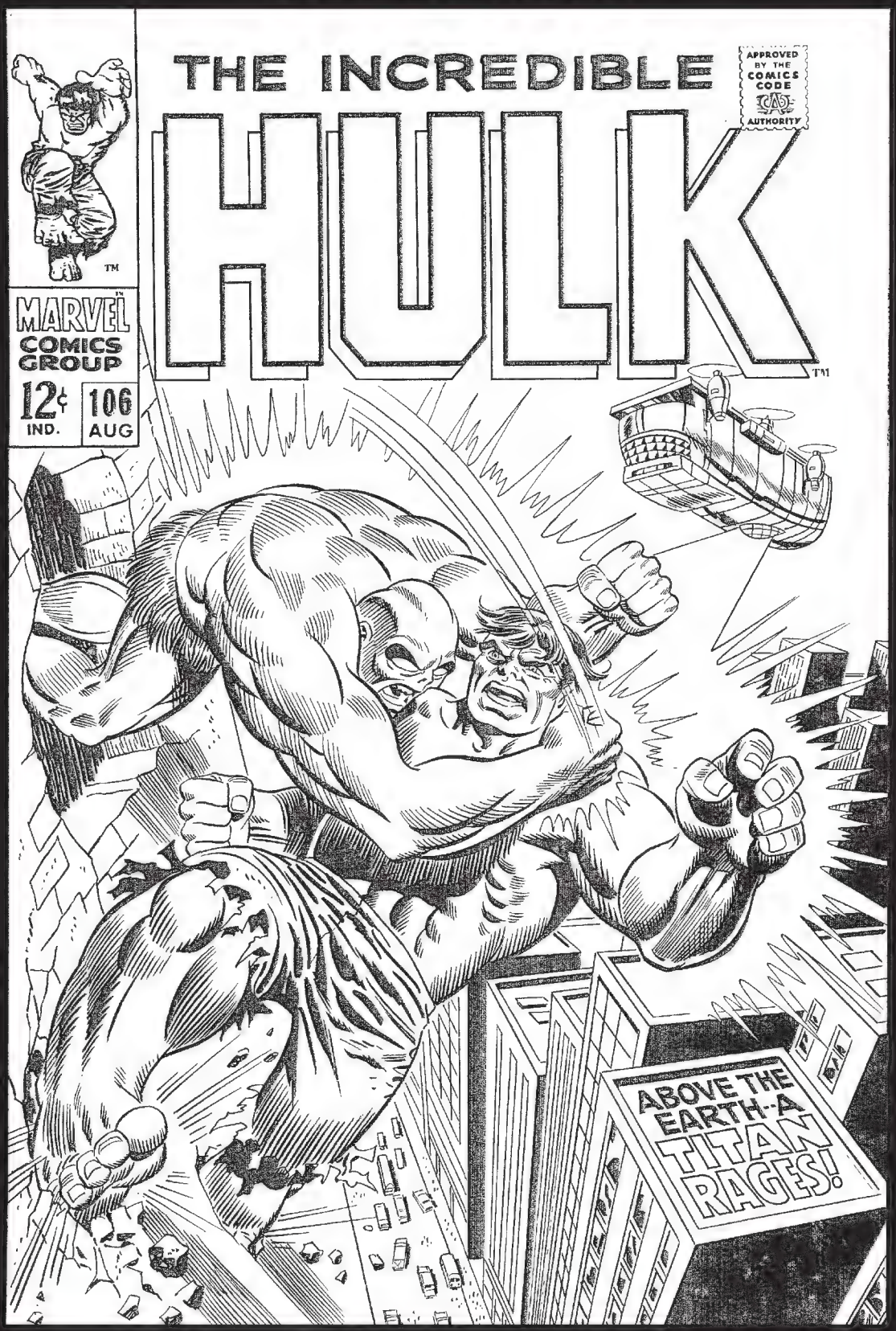
INCREDIBLE HULK 104
22
BUT, THE SEARING FLAMES WHICH WOULD SIZZLE A NORMAL MAN TO A CINDER IN MERE MOMENTS...DOES NOT SPELL THE END FOR THE HULK, AS...
AAAGGGHHHH! THE FIRE'S BLINDING ME...CAN'T SEE... CAN'T GET OUT!
HULK MUST ESCAPE... BUT CAN'T LET THE RHINO DIE THIS WAY!
HULK WILL CARRY YOU TO SAFETY!
THEN, WE'LL CONTINUE OUR FIGHT--IF YOU CAN!
THEN, WITH A MIGHTY FLEXING OF HIS POWERFUL LEGS, THE HULK SPRINGS HIGH INTO THE AIR...
...AND, CLINGING TIGHTLY TO HIS UNCONSCIOUS ADVERSARY, LEAPS INTO THE COOLING WATERS OF JAMAICA BAY!
UNTIL, MERE SECONDS WHICH SEEM LIKE AN ETERNITY LATER...
THE DANGER'S OVER NOW! HULK HAS ONLY A FEW BURNS!
BUT THE FIGHT'S ALL GONE FROM MY FOE! HULK WILL LEAVE HIM ON THE SHORE!
BUT, NO SOONER HAS THE GREAT GREEN GOLIATH TURNED AWAY, THAN...
RUNNIN' FROM---A FIGHT, HUH? YOU STILL SCARED... I'LL BEAT YOU?
WELL...MAYBE I UNDERSTAND! 'CAUSE I'M HUMAN...
...AND NOT AN ANIMAL...LIKE YOU!
HULK SAVED YOUR LIFE...AND YOU STILL CALL HIM NAMES! YOU STILL CHALLENGE HULK?
THEN, BY THE HULK'S HAND YOU'LL DIE!
17.

Courtesy Heritage Auctions

The Incredible Hulk #109, page 19 original art by Herb Trimpe & John Severin

INCREDIBLE HULK 109
26
THIS IS THE REASON FOR THE FREAK WEATHER WE'VE BEEN HAVING!
STAND BACK! ZABU AND I WILL DESTROY IT, PIECE BY PIECE!
IT MEANS THE BEGINNING OF THE END IS NEAR!
NO! YOU MUSTN'T!
IF ANY FORCE IS USED, ITS ACTION WILL BE SPEEDED UP!
IT CONTAINS ITS OWN SAFETY TRIGGER!
EARTH WILL FLY APART IN SECONDS!
WHOEVER CREATED THIS DEVILISH DEVICE, WANTED NO ONE TO SUSPECT WHAT WAS HAPPENING--UNTIL TOO LATE!
BUT, IT ISN'T HOPELESS!
I THINK I CAN CHANGE THE CIRCUITS, AND--
KA-ZAR! WHAT'S THAT?!
THE SWAMP MEN! THEY SEEK REVENGE!
THEY ATTACK AGAIN!
THEY HURL SWAMP GAS PELLETS!!
BECAUSE OF--THE MACHINE--WE RELAXED OUR VIGILANCE!
YOU MUST--HOLD YOUR BREATH--DO NOT--INHALE!
TOO LATE! I'VE ALREADY--BREATHED IT IN--!
NO! ONLY YOU--CAN SAVE--THE WORLD!!
THAT'S RIGHT! THE MACHINE--I HAVE TO STOP IT!!
I MUSTN'T FALL--I MUSTN'T FAIL!!
WAIT! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?!
THE TENSION--THE FEAR--IS CHANGING ME--
BUT--IT MUSTN'T HAPPEN NOW! I CAN'T--I CAN'T BECOME--
THUS, BEFORE THE HORRIFIED EYES OF THE SEMI-CONSCIOUS JUNGLE LORD--STILL STRUGGLING TO RESIST THE EFFECTS OF THE DREADED SWAMP GAS--
--THE ONLY MAN POSSESSING SCIENTIFIC SKILL ENOUGH TO SAVE OUR TORTURED PLANET IS TRANSFORMED--INTO THE RAGING, BESTIAL BRUTE MAN CALLED--
--THE HULK!
19

Original illustration version of Marie Severin and Frank Giacoia's
The Incredible Hulk #106 cover

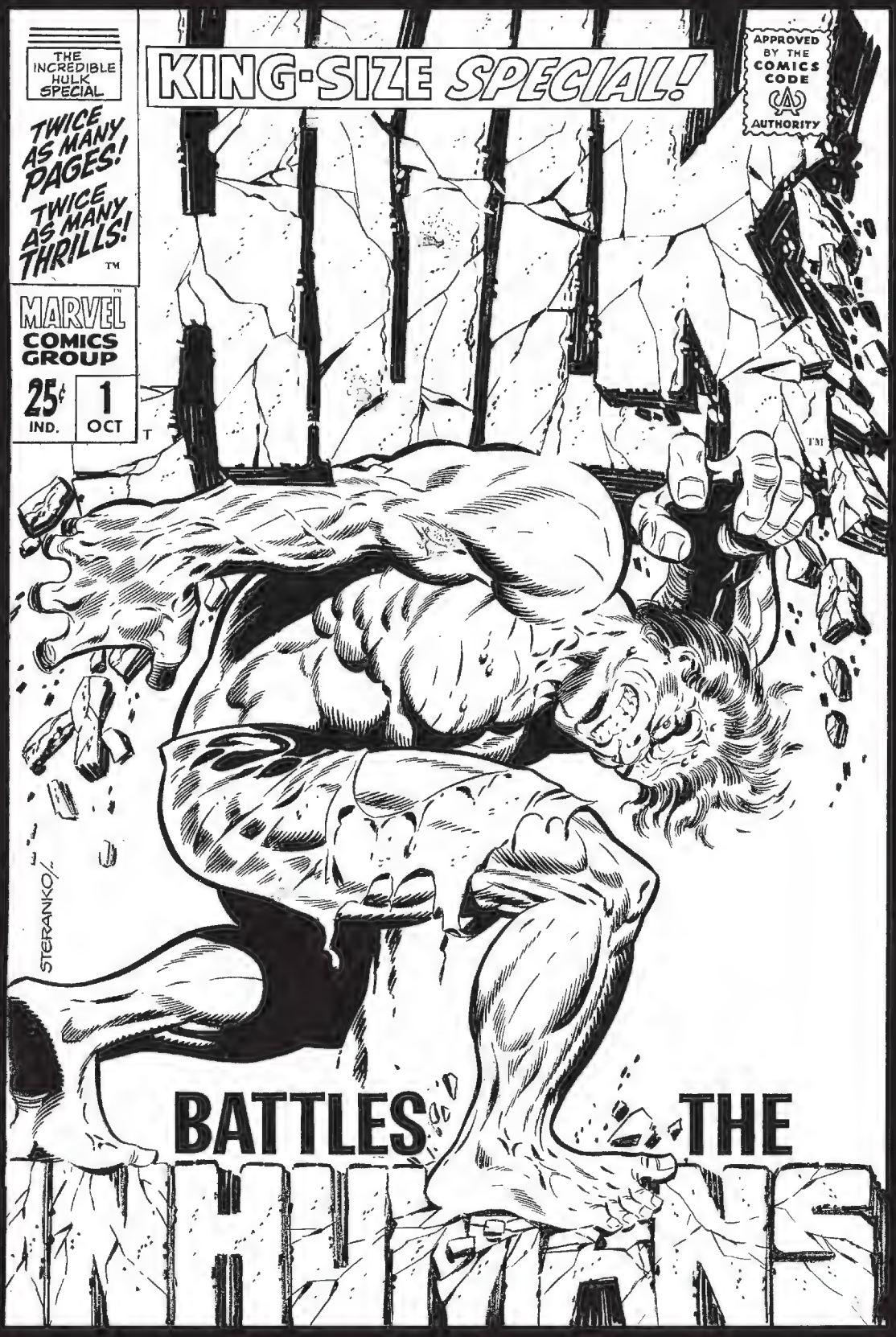


Original illustration version of Marie Severin and Frank Giacoia's
The Incredible Hulk #107 cover

Marie Severin and Frank Giacoia's unpublished cover artwork for
The Incredible Hulk Annual #1

THE INCREDIBLE HULK SPECIAL
TWICE AS MANY PAGES! TWICE AS MANY THRILLS!
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
25¢ IND.
1 SEPT
KING-SIZE SPECIAL!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE INCREDIBLE HULK
IN THE LAND OF THE INHUMANS!

Original illustration version of Jim Steranko's
The Incredible Hulk Annual #1 cover



BIOGRAPHIES

STAN LEE

Stanley Lieber was born in New York City in 1922, the oldest son of Jewish immigrants from Romania. Upon an early graduation from high school, Stan was thrust out into the post-Depression wartime economy. Through family connections, he was able to land a job with Martin Goodman's comic-book publishing start-up, Timely Comics, as an assistant editor. His youthful aspiration was to one day write the "Great American Novel," so when his first professional writing job came, in the form of a humble two-page text story in *Captain America Comics* #3, he adopted a pseudonym: Stan Lee. This way, he could reserve his real name for that novel-to-be.

But the world of comics managed to keep Stan Lee constantly employed. His proficiency on the job got him the position of managing editor at an extremely young age. He graduated from simple text pieces to full-length stories in *All-Winners*, *USA Comics*, and other Timely anthologies. His tenure in the '50s saw him expand the company (now called Atlas Comics) output to include more genre experimentation, with westerns, war, horror and crime comics.

All this activity was a prelude to the Marvel Age of Comics, ushered in under the auspices of Stan Lee and a small stable of artists topped off by the formidable talents of Jack Kirby and Steve Ditko. Responding to Martin Goodman's challenge to do something to find a way to revitalize dwindling sales, Stan figured he would co-opt the successful super-hero revival at competitor DC Comics and add his own magic to the mix: Instead of being perfect invulnerable champions, Stan's Marvel Age heroes would be normal, fallible, imperfect people, forced to cope with their newfound superhuman traits just like the average person might.

Stan's innovation sent shock waves through the comics industry, and within a few years, Marvelmania was taking hold: unlike other fads of the time, it wasn't letting go. Under his direction, creations like Fantastic Four, Spider-Man, Iron Man, Thor, Doctor Strange and Incredible Hulk flourished in the shared universe they inhabited. Stan developed the idea that these larger-than-life heroes would meet each other in crossovers from title to title, thus exploding the story possibilities for the kids who became eager fans.

In addition to bringing a new twist to the life of the super hero, Stan also brought the reader inside Marvel's "Batty Bullpen," creating a sense of camaraderie and special membership. His friendly and enthusiastic banter in letters pages, house ads, and Bullpen Bulletins brought Marvel Comics to a level of familiarity with their fans that had kids and college students proudly professing themselves to be "True Believers."

At one time, Stan wrote virtually every comic that appeared from Marvel during the 1960s. But when he was promoted to Publisher in 1971, his writing had to take a backseat, and by the mid-'70s, he semi-retired from scripting duties. Over the years, Stan has returned to write scripts for the odd single issue or series, focusing on Marvel's ventures into television and movie development. To this day, he remains Marvel Comics' single greatest ambassador to the world.

GARY FRIEDRICH

The early days of Gary Friedrich's life as a comics writer has a similar arc to that of teenage pal Roy Thomas, and while he may not have had as long a career as his friend and fellow fan developed, he was still able to make a significant contribution to Marvel, especially in the period during Stan Lee's transition from writer to Publisher. Hailing from the same Missouri environs as Roy Thomas, the pair befriended each other in their high school days and established a bond through their love of comics; for Gary, it was the super-hero revival taking place in late-'50s DC Comics that first peaked his interest, but it was Stan Lee's Marvel Age of Comics that really inspired him. After Roy made the trip to New York City and got his own career started in earnest, he made it clear to his pal back in Missouri that there might be a job in comics waiting for him if he made the attempt. Shortly after getting off the bus from the Show Me State, Gary got his first work from Dick Giordano to write various Charlton comics, including Blue Beetle backup stories penciled by none other than Steve Ditko!

At the same time, he was able to pick up some work at Marvel, his first effort being the western *Ghost Rider*, a new series created in tandem with Dick Ayers and his pal, Roy Thomas. Other contributions during this time included other westerns like *Rawhide Kid* and *Two-Gun Kid,* as well as other non-super-hero titles like *Captain Savage*—for which Gary wrote virtually the entire nineteen issue run—and *Sgt. Fury,* wherein he started a four-year run that saw him cautiously but profoundly merge a sense of social commentary and allegory into the long-running war title. Beyond his regular work on these titles, Gary was able to do spot writing on titles that were in transition between regular writers, including *X-Men, Incredible Hulk* and *Captain Marvel.*

The early '70s saw Gary behind the helm of Marvel's last new war title, *Combat Kelly*, but his most significant contribution of the era was taking place in the pages of the showcase title *Marvel Spotlight.* Not wanting a high-concept character name like Ghost Rider to languish after the western iteration had left newsstands, Gary took the name and, along with Roy Thomas and artist Mike Ploog, created the flaming skulled, chopper-riding Johnny Blaze, a tormented soul on the run from Satan himself! He wrote the first dozen stories featuring the iconic character, and in the meantime wrote a faithful adaptation of Mary Shelley's classic novel in the pages of *Monster of Frankenstein*. These were to be his last major contributions to Marvel.

After a stint with the short-lived Atlas/Seaboard company in the mid-'70s, and then a brief run writing Captain Britain stories for Marvel UK, Gary left the comics scene, though he is still a featured guest at various comics conventions.

MARIE SEVERIN

Billing as "The Nicest Person in Comics" may accurately describe the high esteem in which Marie Severin's peers have always held her, but the moniker doesn't approach the quality of her work produced over a lifetime in comics. Fortunately, it doesn't need to: a cursory glance at her accomplishments will settle the issue of her artistic legacy. Along with Ramona Fradon, Marie stands as one of the first women to make a dent in the boys' club of comic professionals.

Marie and her older brother, John, learned how to draw early on in their lives, both trained by their mother and father. As a young lady in her early twenties, she gained employment at Bill Gaines' EC Comics, taking on a variety of tasks including inking and coloring, eventually becoming Harvey Kurtzmann's right-hand gal and soaking up as much of his zany outlook as possible.

In the late '60s, with the Marvel Age in full swing, Marie took a job at the upstart comics company. Her first full-time penciling gig was behind the boards of Doctor Strange in *Strange Tales*, picking up after the mercurial Steve Ditko left the book. Another key book for her was *Incredible Hulk*, which she drew for over a year before teaching Herb Trimpe the ropes on Ol' Purple Pants. In addition to her regular pencil and inking gigs, Marie became one of the top cover artists for Marvel, and continued her work as one of the field's most accomplished colorists of the day. All while maintaining her staff job (someone had to keep the Bullpen lively!)

Throughout her career, Marie developed an artistic versatility that allowed her to master the bestial fury of the Incredible Hulk, the regal power of the Sub-Mariner and the super-hero satire in *Not Brand Echh!* In fact, it could be said that Marie's most indelible contribution to the Marvel Age was in that singular Marvel humor mag, where her *Mad*-laced bent for humor was allowed to flourish.

More accomplishments continued into the '70s, where she worked in tandem with John Severin on *Kull the Conqueror,* her personal favorite of the work she had ever done, as well as designing the costume for The Cat (later Hellcat). She also designed the costume for the first incarnation of Spider-Woman. Today, Marie is semi-retired from the industry she worked in for decades through to the '90s, but can still be seen contributing material to projects much to the pleasure of Ghoulunatics and True Believers alike.

HERB TRIMPE

He may not have created as many great characters as Kirby or Ditko, or had as groundbreaking a style as Steranko or Adams, and he'll be the first one to tell you that! But Herb Trimpe is easily one of the most recognizable comic artists of all time, owing to the incredible popularity of two titles (*Incredible Hulk, G.I. Joe*) to which his legacy is most indebted.

Herb joined Marvel fresh out of the armed forces, where he served in the Air Force as a weatherman from 1962-1966, providing weather telemetry to forces stationed in Vietnam. He was offered a job in the production department at Marvel, but was promised he could find fill-in work as a penciler and inker in between his office duties. He first got to flex his artistic muscles on a variety of western stories in books like *Kid Colt, Outlaw*, and then got the chance to draw his first full-length story in *Marvel Super-Heroes* #16, featuring the Phantom Eagle, a collaboration with writer Gary Friedrich that played off of Herb's well-known interest in drawing airplanes.

He also inked several books, most notably finishing the pencils in some of Marie Severin's Hulk stories in *Tales to Astonish*. Several months after his last inking job on the Hulk feature, Herb got the book as his own, and he wouldn't part with it for almost eight years! From *Incredible Hulk* #106-193, spanning the years 1968 to 1975, the tales of Marvel's most misunderstood man-beast were drawn under his auspices. He immediately combined an EC-influenced approach to layouts with a Kirbyesque style of dynamics, a style that became even more pronounced when he began inking his own pencils with issue #117. Through it all, he never strayed from the elements of the character he felt had already been perfected: the pathos of a tragic figure's Jekyll/Hyde dual personality.

Shortly after his tenure began on *The Incredible Hulk,* he also picked up work on *Nick Fury,* penciling that series' last handful of issues, but it was the Hulk that was the dominant title during this time in Herb's career. During his tenure, he came up with the Hulkbusters concept, did character designs for the likes of Wendigo and Zzzax, and also drew the first appearance of Wolverine in *Incredible Hulk* #180-181.

After the Hulk, Herb drew the Toho-licensed properties *Godzilla* and *Shogun Warriors*, at the same time penciling *The Defenders*. He also drew the first several issues of Marvel UK's *Captain Britain*.

As the '80s began, Herb drew some much-beloved *Marvel Team-Up* issues, but it was the launch of another licensed title that would ensure that Herb's art was among the most seen comic art of the decade. *G.I. Joe* #1 was an instant hit, selling hundreds of thousands of copies over multiple printings, and was the start of an incredibly successful, long-running title. In addition to the early *G.I. Joe* issues, Herb drew its spinoff title, *G.I. Joe Special Missions*.

Another highlight in Herb's career was providing breakdown art in collaboration with Barry Windsor-Smith on the *Machine Man* limited series. Later in the decade, his workload scaled back to spot penciling and inking jobs. In 2002, he was awarded the Humanitarian of the Year Award at the San Diego Comic-Con for services rendered as a chaplain at Ground Zero after 9/11.

Biographical material researched and written by John Rhett Thomas.

THE MARVEL MASTERWORKS LIBRARY

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Created to be the world's savior, Adam Warlock wields the cosmic power of the Soul Gem in his quest to redeem Counter-Earth!

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Gifted with strange and amazing powers, Professor Charles Xavier's teen team, the X-Men, leads the way in the quest to bring together man and mutant.

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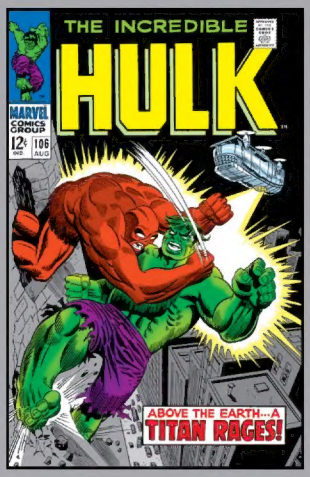
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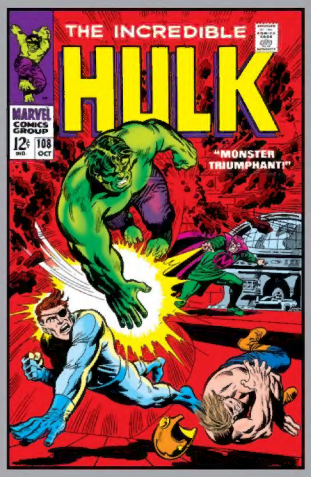
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